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GUEST EDITORIAL

By R. K. Helmle

It is wonderful what can be achieved when generous public spirited people work together for a common cause!

This issue of the Record marks the beginning date of a new achievement in Yancey County—the beginning of the first annual United Fund appeal.

This first year's goal of just over eleven thousand dollars—set by a committee of the County's thoughtful citizens—is an impressive sum for a comparatively poor rural county. It would be a heavy burden if only a few people in the county were expected to give it. But Yancey County has about 16,000 population. That means that if every man, woman, and child in the county were to give 69 cents, the goal would be reached.

Looked at that way the goal does not look so very high. If we balance the benefits to be derived from the dozen or so fine causes included under the drive, against the 69 cents, it looks like a small price to pay for a year of those benefits.

But actually nobody expects the

money to be raised by everybody giving just 69 cents. That would not be a fair way of collecting it. Some of us are in a better position to give than others, and will pledge sums many times the 69 cent figure.

The point for us all to keep in mind is that if we all give in accordance with our ability, and if there are no evaders, the eleven thousand dollar goal will be raised without difficulty, and without hardship on the givers.

It is now up to the volunteer workers in the county to contact every potential giver; or in cases where the giver is overlooked, it should not be too hard for him to hunt up some worker who will accept his contribution, or to send it in to the Yancey United Fund in Burnsville. Each of us should make the size of his contribution a matter of conscience.

Projects like the United Fund campaign reflect credit on the communities which conduct them, and upon all those who participate, either as workers or givers. In their generous character these projects are a fine symbol of the Christian spirit. They deserve the maximum support from all of us.

WHAT IS A UNITED FUND?

What is a "United Fund"? Since news of the newly organized Yancey United Fund's first campaign fills so large a part of this week's Record, we think it reasonable to attempt an explanation.

A United Fund is an organization or association of good citizens and services working together in a community to make it a better place in which to live.

A United Fund is a vehicle, as it were, upon which the community can move toward providing a happier, healthier and more prosperous community. It assists in providing such health, welfare and educational services as the community desires, but which are not provided by tax-supported government agencies.

A United Fund in itself is not one of these health, welfare or service agencies. It does not directly provide charitable or welfare services. It is not in-

tended to do this.

What a United Fund can and should do is to provide the machinery of a united campaign to assure that funds are raised for those agencies that do provide the services the community desires. It should, moreover, provide the machinery for careful community planning to determine needs and services. By careful planning and budgeting, it can assure the community that it is getting the most for its money in terms of services.

It can provide for new services to fill unmet needs—if the community really desires those services. It can make sure that services are meeting the needs of the community, and that money collected is being wisely spent.

Persons give through the United Fund, not to it. We give through it as a way of providing for our voluntary agencies' services in a more efficient and businesslike manner.

A YOUTH PROGRAM IS NEEDED FOR YANCEY COUNTY

By C. B. Trammel

The United Fund effort soon to be launched in Yancey County for the first time will include five hundred dollars to begin a program for the Youth of the county. This is only a beginning but it is a beginning and many of the leaders in the county believe that this will be a vital part of the United Drive. The question will be properly asked, "What will the money be spent for?" Is there a real need for such a program?

Those of us who have had any experience at all in trying to promote and lead a Youth Program will be able to give some answers to the above questions. A person undertaking to lead a Youth Program quickly learns that there is at present no place available for any kind of recreation where boys and girls can play, with the exception of the play grounds at the schools in the county. There is no equipment beyond that provided by the churches for organizations within the churches. There is a definite need for a place where boys especially may go and play.

The farm youth of the county in the 4-H Clubs are doing an excellent piece of work. The achievements of our boys and girls in these organizations compare favorably with the work done anywhere in the state. And yet, our farm leaders are often faced with raising the money for awards, for transportation to fairs, even for ribbons won in competition, as well as other necessary expense that goes along with the

responsibility of leading a group of young people. A conservative estimate by an experienced church leader of youth recently was to the effect that any leader of a youth program could expect to spend fifty dollars a year if a good job was done with the group. This expense is often carried by the person that also is asked to give the leadership. This is not fair or just. The United Fund for Yancey County will help to secure the services of fine leaders who now may feel that they are not able to bear the cost of leadership in a Youth group.

Of course, this is the first year and not too much can be done in this year or with the amount set up. However, if we have the cooperation of all our citizens, and we feel sure that we will, a program that will include many needs will be provided for. One of the many advantages of a United Fund will be to keep some of the money that the citizens of the county give at home. Some of it will find its way back into the community from which it came and we believe that this is right. I am personally glad that we have a program that includes the Youth of the County.

Last year advertising book matches and wooden matches used 18 million pounds of paraffin produced by the petroleum industry. The paraffin helps transfer the flame from the head of the match to the "stick."

USO
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 "home away from home" for men and women in uniform everywhere.

Army camps often attract undesirable elements to the neighboring towns—gambling houses, cheap cafes, and other undesirable "joints" tend to spring up in the area, as the seekers for easy money swarm into the area. These elements must be combated, and USO Clubs by offering wholesome recreation serve this purpose. The USO insures that the qualities of character development through the home, church and school will be preserved. There are now sixteen USO Clubs in the Carolinas.

President Eisenhower wholeheartedly supports the USO, and has accepted the Honorary Chairmanship of the organization.

The USO is campaigning for \$14,000,000 this year—mostly through United Fund drives. This national total amounts to about five dollars for each man and woman in the service. Yancey County's contribution of 70 cents for each man from this county now in service is comparatively small. The Budget Committee felt that the people of the County would wish to support this agency, but that in view of the limited resources here the contribution should be well below the "national average."

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ASC Election
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 Silvers Store.

East Crabtree: Bis Young, Byrle Robinson, Smith Howell, Champ Ray, Welzie Robinson, Edd Howell, L. P. Young, Lewis Green, Charlie Gurley, Bill Edge.

Polling Place, Presnell's Store.

Upper South Toe: Frank Bowditch, Richmond Wilson, Gaither Simmons, Roscoe Westall, Walter Loftis, A. A. Wilson, R. L. Rector, Lawrence Gibbs, Vernie Murphy.

Polling Place, Arthur Robinson's Store.

Lower South Toe: Floyd Huskins, Henry Grindstaff, Bud Grindstaff, Sam Hensley, Fred Robinson, Carey Hall, Ray Cook, Milt Huskins, Barnett Ray, Dan Harris.

Polling Place, Chrisawn's Store.

Pensacola: Pearson Riddle, Audrey Burleson, Frank Wilson, Clyde Penland, Wayne Ray, G. G. McPeters, Oliver McMahan, Horace D. Ray, Ray Blankenship, Bass Hensley.

Polling Place, Brooks Wilson Store.

Prices Creek: Francis Ar. Rowood, Charles Edwards, Tom Elkins, Armond England, Les.

ter Holcombe, Burl Maney, Emmett Ledford, D. L. Hurst, Hunter Maney, Moscoe Tye.

Polling Place, Regular Voting Place.

Brush Creek: Yates Randolph, Gaw Sparks, Elmer Sparks, John P. Woody, Earl Robinson, D. R. Garland, Arthur Hughes, Jack Bailey, John Randolph, Lawrence Grindstaff.

Polling Place, Regular Voting Place.

Additions to the above list of nominees may be made provided such addition is requested in a petition signed by ten or more eligible voters and presented to the community election board not later than Tuesday, October 11, 1955.

Any farmer who as owner, operator, tenant, or sharecropper, is participating or is eligible to participate in any program administered by the County ASC Committee, is eligible to vote in his community.

Announcements will be made of the Community Committee men elected as soon as the ballots are counted on the afternoon of the 18th. Delegates elected by the farmers will meet on October 27 to elect County Committeemen, ASC County and Community Committeeemen elected will take office November 1.

Red Cross
 (Continued from page 1)
 the country.

Last year Yancey County, because of slowness to raise its Red Cross quota, narrowly missed losing its Red Cross Chapter, and those concerned with the necessary blood supply for operating the Yancey Hospital spent several anxious weeks until a special drive to raise additional funds reached its goal. Success of the new United Fund drive will prevent a recurrence of that unhappy experience.

A list of the valuable services rendered by the Red Cross is a long one. It is the only agency officially recognized by the armed forces for handling the many varied contacts with the families of men in the service. A large volume of such cases is handled by the Red Cross "Home Service" in Yancey County every year. They involve cases of sickness and death, either of the service man or of members of his family at home, cases of financial distress and various other emergencies, and many of these cases require the arranging of leaves of absence. In a county having little rural telephone service, such as Yancey, the expense of this service, frequently involving long automobile trips by the Home Service Secretary, is considerable.

A wide variety of assistance to dependents of service people and

to veterans is rendered in connection with disability cases, allowances, dependency allowances, and the whole range of matters involving complicated "paper work" necessary to satisfy the various government agencies.

The recent hurricanes and ensuing floods have spotlighted the role of the Red Cross in furnishing relief when disaster strikes. There is real satisfaction to a community not only from contributing to the relief of such suffering, but in knowing that an agency such as the Red Cross is standing by, ready to step in with relief when disaster strikes. One day Yancey County's turn may come.

Of most vital interest to Yancey County of the several Red Cross services is the provision of the blood program. This service consists of the collection of blood through the "bloodmobile" on its periodic visits to Burnsville, the careful processing of this blood (which Mr. Howard Wright at the Hospital has explained to us is a very painstaking and expensive business), the storing, and delivery of this blood to the Yancey Hospital as required, and the maintenance in Asheville of an inventory of the rarer types of blood, so that they may be obtained as needed on short notice.

This blood program places at our fingertips the means of saving lives—lives of our Yancey County neighbors.

Saturday, October 29
Yancey County's Day of Decision
Your vote will affect the educational opportunities for the next fifty years.
Come out and vote for BETTER SCHOOLS

Education in Yancey County stands at the cross roads. All buildings are inadequate, overcrowded, and congested. The facilities necessary for giving our children an educational program to which they are entitled are lacking. The situation is so grave and serious that the governor has stated on different occasions that the county will have to do something to help itself.

This is not a political question as it effects all groups and all parties. If we expect to hold our present industry and to attract new we will have to improve our school system. You owe it to the youth of today and tomorrow to get the true facts and vote as a citizen to give them the opportunities they deserve

Yancey County Board of Education