

The Yancey Record

Established July, 1936

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PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY

YANCEY PUBLISHING Company

Second Class Postage Paid at Burnsville, N. C.

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1936 NUMBER TWENTY-EIGHT

SUBSCRIPTION RATES \$2.50 PER YEAR

Retain The School Lunch Program

WCYB-TV Editorial February 23, 1966

One of the most worthy and appreciated programs of the Federal Government is the school lunch program.

It should be retained, and not reduced or eliminated, as the Johnson Administration's Budget makers propose.

The current school lunch program was inaugurated in 1954. Under it, the Federal Government supplies to the schools free of charge certain types of surplus commodities purchased under its farm price supports. It also provides a cash supplement averaging about five cents a plate on all lunches, and .0375 cents on each half-pint of "Extra" milk a child buys.

The administration now is asking Congress to cut the school-lunch milk fund from \$100 million dollars that is currently appropriated—back to 21 million dollars.

This is not realistic in a country which is so prosperous that it is helping feed a good part of the world. We hope Congress rejects the curtailment. We hope it strengthens the school lunch program.

Already, many school lunchrooms have been advised that they will not receive surplus meat for the remainder of this school year. But butter supplies have been cut. The supply of cheese and dried eggs will be curtailed.

The cost of these items must be added to the local school lunchroom budget.

If the special milk supplement is drastically reduced, and the Federal reimbursement per plate is eliminated, then the school lunchroom programs will be in trouble.

The cost of lunches will advance at least five cents to 10 cents or more per plate. Fewer children will be able to eat when the lunch, which now costs 25 cents, advances to 35 or 40 cents.

A very large proportion of the school population in Tennessee, Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina—comes from families whose income is less than \$3,000 per year.

The concept of Federal school lunch aid was to give children a balanced and nutritious noon meal at a minimum charge. Most of the school lunchroom supervisors have managed to feed

every child who needs to eat—regardless of ability to pay.

They have been feeding children in marginal families who can pay something; they have been feeding youngsters whose parents can't begin to furnish the asking price.

Call it what you will—and some do-it-yourself people classify the program as socialistic. But the school lunch program is humanitarian. . . It is working—it is good for children—it is helping keep many families off welfare rolls. . .

Americans are kindly disposed toward sending a great amount of our surplus commodities to hungry nations. They accept the tax load of three billion dollars a year in foreign aid.

But we feel the average citizen also wants good deeds to begin at home, and he will resent wrecking of the school lunch program. The sum presently involved—70 million dollars—is a mere drip in the bucket compared to what we are sending abroad.

POEM WRITTEN

TO JULIETTE LOW

To Juliette Low, Founder of Girl Scouting on March 12, 1912.

Written in 1933 for the Twenty-first birthday of Girl Scouts of America.

More than a score of years ago a torch was lit; a beacon whose glow shone for the joy of youth; and you, sensing its brilliancy, beneath your roof, kindled a kindred flame, that girlhood in your land should live within its light. And with your hand you tended it and kept its whiteness pure; prayed that its bright promise might endure; and walked yourself uprightly in its gleam. And we, who have had faith in this your dream, are come to give account of our big stewardship. Thousands of girls share your ideals today; Thousands of women walk with them your lighted way, with lives enriched and broadened from its treasury and hearts consecrated to your memory.

By Birdsell Otis Edey.



GIRL SCOUT WEEK

Girl Scouting In Yancey County

The following is a list of the six organized Girl Scout and Brownie Troops, and their leaders, who are active at present in Yancey County:

1. Burnsville Brownie Troop 86 — Leaders, Mrs. Jack Edge and Mrs. Nadine Cooper

2. Burnsville Junior Troop 88 — Leaders, Mrs. Ben Banks and Mrs. H. Carmichael.

3. Burnsville Cadette Troop 65 — Leaders, Mrs. Staunton Norris and Miss Rebecca Riddle.

4. Burnsville Senior Girl Scout Troop 66 — Leader: Miss Annie Hassell.

5. South Toe Junior Troop 17 — Leaders, Mrs. Kore McWhirter and Mrs. George Hix.

6. Micaville Junior Troop 34 — Leaders, Mrs. Betty Robinson and Mrs. Sarah Boone.

Other Girl Scout officers for Yancey County are: Neighborhood Chairman, Mrs. Don Burhoe; Troop Organizer, Mrs. P. C. Colletta; Troop Consultant, Mrs. W. A. Y. Sargent; Camping Consultant, Miss Annie Hassell; Public Relations Chairman, Mrs. Arney Fox.

Brownie Troop 86 consisting of 17 members have been busy little girls this year. In December they went caroling to the Brinkley Rest Home. They are presently engaged in making dolls to be given their mothers. The Brownie Room, located in the Burnsville elementary school basement, has a complete new lock. The walls have been painted white, floor bright green, tables and desk yellow. New curtains of white with a border of Brownie elves have been hung. The showers in the room have been covered with cardboard, and painted the same color as walls, and are being used as bulletin boards.

The decorating and furnishing of the Brownie room was all done at a cost of \$1 00 to the troop. Paint was

donated by the Blue Ridge Hardware Company, Edge's Laundromat and City Motors. Mrs. Kenneth Laughrun donated curtain materials, and they were made by Mrs. Mary Hess. Work on the room was done by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Young, Mrs. Martha Westall, Mrs. Mary Hess, Mrs. Nadine Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Edge, and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Laughrun.

The Troop entertained their mothers with a Valentine party on Feb. 10. During the party ways and means for improving the room were discussed. After it was decided to go ahead with the improvement the Troop prepared the room for the "face lifting".

528 boxes of Girl Scout cookies were sold by the Brownie Troop. Martha Ann Westall, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Westall, led the Troop with the sale of 72 boxes; Sherrie Laughrun, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Laughrun, ran a close second with the sale of 71 boxes; while Ramona Angel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Joe Angel ran third with the sale of 66 boxes.

On April 21 the Troop will do their version of "Hello Dolly", all dressed up in Mother's clothes. This will be given at the Fashion Show sponsored by the WSCS of Higgins Memorial Methodist Church.

The Court of Awards will be held May 21st.

Girl Scout Troop 88, with 33 members, has been very active during the year. In November they gave a Parents' Night Program at the Burnsville Elementary School. The entertainment consisted of an Indian skit and dance. Also in November they participated in the annual Christmas parade by making and riding in a float, titled "It's a Small World".

During December they visited two needy families with gifts.

In February they donated a Saturday afternoon to the distribution of Heart Fund balloons, and collected a total of \$110 for the fund. Also during February they were active in the sale of Girl Scout Cookies. Pat Holcombe led the parade with the sale of 103 boxes, with Alana Carmichael coming in second with 54 boxes and Sherri Lisa Parks third with 47 boxes. A total of 708 boxes were sold.

During Troop meetings the girls have worked on Health Aid, Sonester and Rambler badges. They are also working on their part in the program for the Court of Awards in May.

They hope to end the year with an over-night camp-out, supervised by Scout Leaders, Mrs. Ben Banks and Mrs. Helton Carmichael.

Junior Girl Scout Troop 19 in Ce'o was organized in 1964, with Mrs. Kore McWhirter as leader and Mrs. George Hix as assistant leader. The ten members in the Troop meet every Thursday afternoon at the South Toe Elementary School.

This Troop sold a total of 289 boxes of cookies, with Sylvia Ballew, ten year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ballew, leading the sale with 100 boxes.

Cadette Scout Troop 65, made up of 7th and 8th graders, meet weekly. They are very active, working toward Troop badge work, community participation and recreation.

In order to be eligible for troop badge they must participate in good grooming, clerk, child care, first aid to animals.

Their community participation include the following: Building a float for the 1965 Christmas parade; visiting in nursing home; study of the courthouse — court procedure and government of-

(Continued on page 11)