

## Chamber Group Makes Presentation To C. & D.

An important effort toward attracting new industry to Yancey County was made some weeks ago when a task force of our Chamber of Commerce made a presentation to the staff of the State Department of Conservation and Development of what our county has to offer industry. This undertaking was, in short, an effort to "sell" Yancey County to the C. & D. people, who in turn are in a position from time to time to direct this way some industry that is looking for a plant location.

The presentation appears to have been an outstanding success. It was made in the C. & D. offices in Raleigh by Woodward Finley, Bill Banks and Philip Thomas, Olen Shepard and Bob Helmle went along on the trip to assist in the presentation and to answer questions.

In order to keep in touch with the problems of industry location at the grass-roots level the C. & D. people have established a practice of inviting each month one county to come to Raleigh to make its presentation and informally discuss its problems. Through the C. & D. office in Sylva arrangements were made for our Chamber of Commerce to participate in this program.

Our task force carefully prepared and rehearsed its presentation, all of which was illustrated with projected colored slides. The scenery, general features of the county and prospective plant sites were all photographed. Charts showing significant economic information, particularly regarding our labor supply, were also made into slides, as were also plates of our plant sites.

Woody Finley made the general introduction of the presentation, including the basic information regarding our county's economic problems. Bill Banks gave an entertaining description of the County's chief features, making Yancey County sound very attractive, indeed. Philip Thomas discussed in some detail our labor supply, and the sites available to industry.

The presentation was followed by informal general discussion. At the close of the meeting staff members expressed themselves as highly pleased with the presentation, describing it as perhaps the best that had been so far made. Our task force returned to Burnsville well satisfied that good relations with the C. & D. people had been established.

## Yancey Library Shows Progress

By: William N. Hess, Asst. Regional Librarian

From a slow beginning when first "unofficially" organized by the Burnsville Women's Club, in 1923, the Yancey County Public Library has continued its progress forward in step with the rest of Yancey County.

In 1945 the "official" public library was organized by resolution of the Yancey County Board of Commissioners, and the first \$300.00 of State Aid was obtained. In 1950 county-wide bookmobile service began.

After many moves (from the second floor of the Briggs Building, and the basement of Lloyd Elliott's Building,) the library is now located in the Randolph Building on Academy Street. This last move will not be soon forgotten by the participants therein, for it was accomplished in a driving, freezing, all-day rain and snowstorm, on January 19, 1961.

In 1952 a co-operative effort with Avery and Mitchell County libraries led to the establishment of an excellent mineral collection, still growing and part of a special state-wide interlibrary loan collection, financed with a special state appropriation.

In 1957 a federal aid grant for a three-county cooperative service and walk-in bookmobile

was obtained, and a subsequent special federal grant paid the cost of producing catalog cards for all of the 3 county libraries.

In 1961, Yancey County Public Library joined with the county libraries of Avery and Mitchell counties to establish the Avery-Mitchell-Yancey County Regional Library, thus making the total library resources of all three county libraries available to any library patron in any of those counties.

The Yancey County Library patron now has available more than 33,000 volumes of fiction, non-fiction, and reference material. In addition phonograph records of many types of music, as well as tape recordings are available. Under the auspices of the state-wide Adult Film Project, a patron may book over 1,000 films for snowing to any interested group. As well, the Library has films provided from many other sources, one of which is the Canadian Travel Bureau, and easily available, with some advance notice to the local librarian. A local history file has been started and an effort will be made soon to tape record the "memories" of many of our early settlers to provide a "living history" of Yancey County.

The excellence of the Avery-Mitchell-Yancey Regional Library was recognized nationally in 1965 when the Library was the recipient of the Dorothy Canfield Fisher award of \$1,000.00, being one of 10 libraries throughout the United States

## Freeman Assigned To Military Police Bat.

SAIGON, VIETNAM (AHTNC) —Army Private James D. Freeman, 20, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert W. Freeman, Burnsville, N. C., was assigned to the 716th Military Police Battalion near Saigon, Vietnam, March 24.

Freeman, a military policeman with Company A of the battalion, entered the Army in October 1966 and was last assigned at Ft. Gordon, Ga.

He was graduated from East Yancey High School in 1964 and from Blanton Business College in 1966.

His wife, Deana, lives at 457 Hendersonville Road, Asheville, N. C.

es so recognized.

Current members of the Yancey County Library Board are H. G. Bailey, Chairman; Edgar Hunter, Jr., Secretary; Harlan Hollombe, Rev. Woodward Finley, Boyd Laws, and Yates Bailey.

Regional Library Board members are H. G. Bailey, Charles Edwards, and Mrs. W. A. Y. Sargent.

The local librarian is Mrs. Mary M. Young.

## E. Y. Working Toward Southern Assoc. Accreditation

East Yancey, in the desire to become a member of Regional Accrediting Agency, the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges, has been following the necessary procedures.

Both East Yancey and Cane River High Schools have been accredited with the State System since 1959. Neither of the high schools, however, is a member of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges. East Yancey is working to that end.

A complete State reevaluation is necessary, and for East Yancey this was the first step taken.

A complete initial self study by each department of the school was the first step in the process. And in the study of the departments, care was taken to be objective in all areas, stressing particularly strength and weakness.

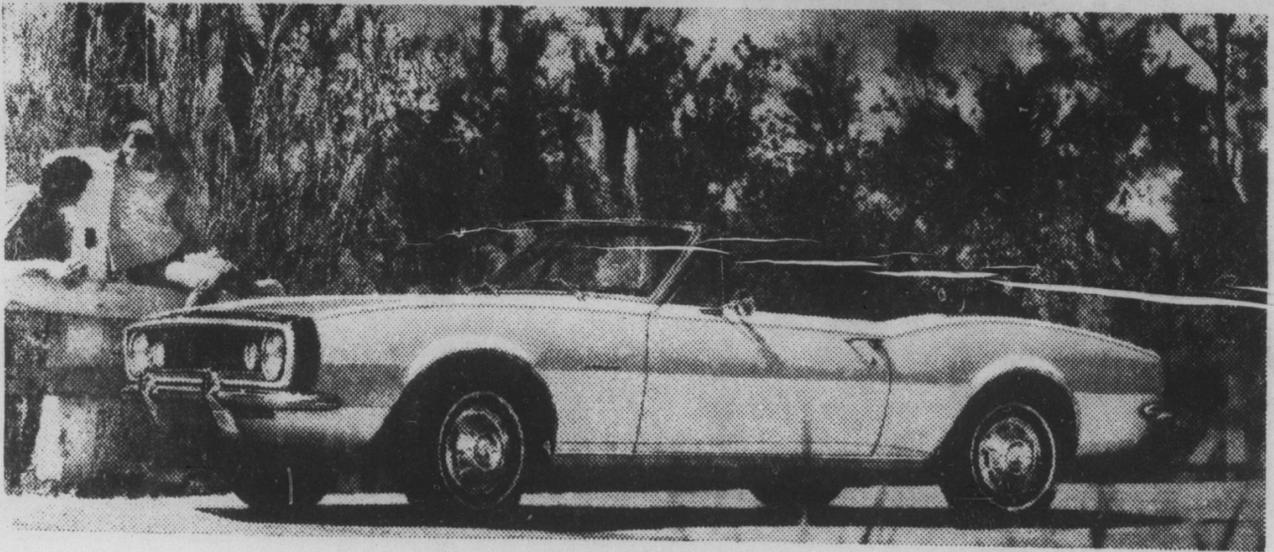
The weaknesses ascertained by the study were strengthened as much as possible prior to visitations by State Department officials.

Each department of the school was visited by appropriate state personnel, and their helpful findings were reported to the local school board and to the school. The final overall visit by state officials came March 21.

The formal report which will determine the status of the school will be received at a later date. It is expected, however, that the school will be accredited by the State System another year.

Each year's report by the school officials will be studied by the local school board and the Southern Association's group next fall.

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