

THE YANCEY RECORD

BURNSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Volume 33

Thursday, May 22, 1969

Number Thirty-Seven

A Growing Affluence In Yancey

NEW YORK, May 17- If Yancey County residents were to total their living expenditures for the past year and discover, as is probable, that they were more than twice as big as they were 15 years ago, their immediate conclusion would be "inflation."

But, according to a recent study by the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, they would be wrong. They would be barking up the wrong tree.

It appears, from the bank's figures and from a Commerce Department survey, that most of the increase is attributable to an advance in living standards.

The finding is that some 60 percent of the rise in family budgets in the 15 years has been due to higher living, and only 40 percent to higher prices.

Without realizing it, people in Yancey County and elsewhere have been upgrading their expenditures for goods and services, with the result that average families are living better than ever before—despite bigger taxes and despite inflation.

The change is readily discernible in the local area, where home ownership is at a high level where more people have cars and where more is spent on luxuries than in former years.

An indication of this trend to better living is revealed in a special Commerce Department report. It follows a nationwide sampling survey, covering the period since 1960, on the number of big-ticket household accessories in the average home.

In Yancey County, on the strength of these findings, it appears that 20.7 percent of the local families have two or more cars, as against 9.0 percent in 1960.

The proportion of homes in the regional area equipped with clothes dryers has also gone up in the period. The increase is placed at 13.7 percent.

Television sets are also more numerous locally. About 83.0 percent now have one or more sets, as compared with 55.0 percent previously.

Also reported for the regional area were marked increases in air conditioners, dishwashers and stereophonic equipment.

All of it has been made possible by rising incomes, sufficient to provide these extras after absorbing the increase in prices.



Bonnie & Martha Hess, Jerry Clevenger, Pat Randolph, Janet Crisp

Jamboree Will Feature Talented Youths In Folk Singing, Dancing And Music

It's that time of the year again, and Yancey County young people are getting ready for their second annual Yancey Youth Jamboree which is to be on August 7 and 8. They are looking forward with eagerness and anticipation to the event which will give them an opportunity to perform before their families and

friends. People will come from far and near to see and hear the talent, and those who sit in the audience will go away feeling a sense of reward and a rekindled faith in young people.

Each school in the County is being represented at the Jamboree. Approximately forty applications from performers have been received. Talent will include buck dancing, folk songs by both individuals and groups, folk ballads, religious numbers, clogging, western and smooth square dancing and folk dancing. Some of the winners from the 1968 Jamboree returning this year are Micaeville-South Toe Smooth Square Dance Team, Bill Gouge, Wanda Hollifield, and David Gibbs.

Having been expanded into a two-night affair, the Jamboree will feature talent in categories both nights and prizes will be awarded each night. The evening of August 7 will feature talent from grades one through six with judging in all categories. The second evening, talent from grades seven through twelve will perform.

The Yancey Youth Jamboree is held annually in conjunction

with the Mt. Mitchell Craft Festival to provide an opportunity for school children to display talents relating to their rich heritage of folk singing, dancing and music. In keeping with the theme, ballads such as "Lord Love!" and "Barbara Allen" and religious songs such as "Wayfaring Stranger" will be sung; the Buck, Clog and Western Square will be danced; and attire of yesteryear such as long dresses and bonnets, dungarees and checked shirts will be worn.

Judges for the Jamboree will be from outside the County and will be announced at a later date.

A highlight of the program is to be the guest appearance of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Presnell of Banner Elk, N.C., who are well known for hand-carved mountain dulcimers. Both Mr. and Mrs. Presnell are dulcimer artists.

Recreation Plan Would Boost Area

A meeting of county and town officials with the town and county Planning Boards was held May 20 at the Amberjack Restaurant. Guest speakers for the evening were Dr. Manfred Thullen, Community Development Specialist from N. C. State University, Mr. Jack Frausen, Assistant Director N. C. Recreational Commission, Asheville, N.C. and Mr. W.M. Stanton, Extension Forestry Management Specialist. Mr. E. L. Dillingham, County Extension Chairman called the meeting to order and introduced the speakers.

Frausen pointed out that Yancey County now has a very limited recreation program. He stated that some of the steps to take in setting up a recreational project is first to determine if the recreational program will be public, private or commercial. He pointed out that Yancey County should reap a harvest of tourists with an effective program in recreation, and stated that one of the first steps also would be to establish a managing authority, either city, county, or a combination. "Many communities such as this start on a smallerscale with a summer program and use their existing facilities such as schools." He emphasized the fact that the program should be for all ages pre-school through senior.

Dr. Thullen cited the various agencies available for giving advice and help with the recreation program.

Slides of recreational projects in other areas were shown as examples of what can be accomplished with a little work.

Following the talk a panel discussion was held concerning this recreational plan.

The meeting was attended by members of the Yancey County Planning Board, Yancey County Chamber of Commerce, Burnsville Town Board, Burnsville Mass Club and County Commissioners and was arranged and moderated by E. L. Dillingham of the Extension office.

Dinner Meeting To Be Held

The Yancey County Mental Health Association will hold its annual dinner meeting Tuesday, May 27 at 6:30 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church. Dr. Robert Byron of Asheville will be the guest speaker. There will be an election of the executive committee and board of directors, and the by-laws will be acted upon.

The Association is constantly searching for new members and extends an invitation to the public. If you plan to attend this dinner meeting please call Mrs. Pete Coletta, who is in charge of reservations.

From The Editor's Desk

The Editor and Staff of the Yancey Record apologizes for any delay in your newspaper reaching you this month. During our Circulation Drive in May, we are printing over 4,000 copies each week, which strains our present facilities. We hope you will bear with us until we can correct this situation.