



The

# MOUNTAIN EAGLE

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IT SCREAMS! Whitesburg, Letcher County, Kentucky, Thursday, April 30, 1964 Vol. 56, No. 51

## rors acquit bison, others

mount of fog, the amount of darkness.

At one point during the trial sheriff Lewis Hall arrested the wife of Neace after she was found to be carrying a pistol in her handbag. She said she had been threatened. After the incident, persons entering the courtroom were searched for weapons.

Gibson and five of the pickets denied they had had any part in the beatings. Gibson testified he picked up Neace after meeting him as Neace and four or five other cars were coming off Pine Mountain on the morning the beatings occurred.

Gibson said he had had an appointment to meet Neace and Turner at the Whitesburg hospital but had been told there that the men had gone to Pine Mountain. He said he had gone to find them when he met them coming off the mountain and "they blinked their lights and blew their horns and waved for us to stop." He said Neace was "too scared to talk" at the time but said "we'd better get out of here because there had been some trouble on the mountain." Gibson said he did not learn about the violence until later in the day when he heard a radio news report.

Jason Combs, a Baptist minister, testified that Neace offered to keep his silence in the case for \$10,000. Neace denied making the offer.

Lowell Sammons, Charles Moore, Charles Hicks, Walker Fugate and Harvie West confirmed in general detail the story told by Gibson. Charles Engle, the seventh defendant, was not called to the stand. All were acquitted along with Gibson.

During rebuttal testimony, three miners testified for the Commonwealth that they were stopped at the roadblock before the South-East miners arrived. Columbus Ison and Elmer Raleigh identified Gibson as having been at the scene and Dudley Short identified Moore as a participant.



**CHOSEN**--Miss Anne Lewis, who teaches French at Whitesburg High School, has been selected to participate in a summer institute at the University of Kentucky for 48 teachers of French from all parts of the country. Ten of the 14 faculty members will be natives of France and most classes will be conducted in French. The participants will live together and will use only French. The institute is sponsored through the National Defense Education Act.

## Day wins

Danny K. Day won second place in a poultry project contest at the annual meeting of the Cumberland Federation Future Farmers of America annual meeting last Saturday in London.

Nearly 500 FFA members took part in the meeting.

Day received a rating of superior on his project.

Other Whitesburg FFA chapter members who took part included Ronnie Fields, corn, excellent rating, and Larry Brown, creed contest, excellent rating. The chapter received a rating of good on its mock chapter meeting.

Boys taking part in the mock meeting included Danny Day, president; Tommy Davis, vice president; Ronnie Fields, treasurer; Gary Creech, secretary; Eddie Holbrook, reporter; Larry Taylor, sentinel; Ronald Cornett, Kenneth Craigler, Willie Isom and Gerald Baker, members.

## Johnson sends Appalachian aid bill to Congress

President Lyndon B. Johnson came to Eastern Kentucky for a first-hand look at poverty last week end and promptly returned to Washington and asked Congress to pass legislation to help Eastern Kentucky and the rest of the Appalachian area.

The President requested quick congressional action on a proposal to spend some \$262,000,000 in the Appalachian area during the 1964-65 fiscal year, which begins July 1.

The legislation which the President sent to Congress is basically what was requested by the President's Appalachian Regional Commission in a report made public a few weeks ago.

Among the sponsors are U. S. Senator John Sherman Cooper, U. S. Senator Thurston Morton and U. S. Representative Carl D. Perkins.

Even as they introduced the measure, Cooper and Perkins spoke out to tell their colleagues it is not strong enough and must be amended if it is to be effective.

Cooper called for construction of a TVA steam plant to use Eastern Kentucky's coal, which, he pointed out, is still the basic industry in the area.

Perkins called for a much broader program than the Appalachian Redevelopment Bill contains. He criticized features of the proposed legislation intended to help the Appalachian area overcome problems of conservation, education, and a shortage of public facilities.

He said much greater federal financing is needed and proposed a public works program covering all types of public works. The \$71 million the bill calls for in its first year for health, education and welfare services is not enough to meet the need, Perkins said.

He said the bill should be expanded to provide an extensive program of school construction, and to increase salaries for the area's schoolteachers.

Perkins also indicated he was disappointed in the amounts of money proposed for agricultural development, land reclamation and the absence of specific pro-

visions for recreational development. The bill provides \$22 million to convert marginal acres into productive land and \$13 million for coal promotion and reclamation of mined-out lands.

President Johnson also indicated an interest in development of electric power in the Appalachian area.

He told a news conference Saturday that his tour of Appalachia had convinced him "there is need for careful scrutiny of the development of power resources, looking toward action."

"That would mean specifically the possibility of steam plants, TVA, in some of that area," the President said.

The President's visit to Eastern Kentucky was the last leg of a trip which began in Chicago and led to South Bend and Pittsburgh before it reached tiny Inez, a town of 600 in Martin County, Kentucky. Statistically Martin is the worst off of Kentucky counties. (Its average per capita income in 1960 was \$399 as compared to Letcher's per capita of \$1,036.)

Near Inez the President and Mrs. Johnson visited the family of Tom Fletcher, an unemployed sawmill worker who with his wife and eight children exist on an income of \$400 a year.

Then they went to Paintsville, county seat of Johnson County, where they visited Mayo State Vocational School.

Johnson said he was looking ahead to a "bright highway of hope" for the impoverished and unemployed of the nation.

## No dope

The April Letcher Grand Jury reported this week that it had found no evidence that at the present time narcotics are being used by any school children or others or that anyone is presently trafficking illegally in narcotic drugs in the county.

The jury said it had investigated allegations concerning the appearance, use and trafficking in narcotics at Letcher school in the past but was unable to determine the source of supply and had not enough evidence to return an indictment.

County Atty. Stanley Hogg has notified the narcotics division of the U. S. Treasury Department, and the division has promised to conduct an investigation, the jury said.

The jury recommended also that the next grand jury check into the matter.

The investigation was conducted at the direction of Judge J. L. Hays after the January grand jury said it had heard some evidence and recommended that the next grand jury look further.

The April grand jury recommended that Letcher Fiscal Court name a dog warden and consider establishing a dog pound because of the numerous stray dogs at large in the county. The jury said the strays are a "nuisance and a menace to public safety."

## Band boosters to meet

The last meeting of the Whitesburg Band Boosters until September will be held at 7:30 p. m. Monday in the Whitesburg High School building. Refreshments will be served.

Officers will be elected and summer band camp discussed.



**PRESIDENT**--Mrs. Bernice Hackney will serve as president of the Jenkins Woman's Club for the coming year. She succeeds Mrs. Arthur Nash. Other officers are Mrs. Stella Wright, first vice president; Mrs. Ruth Robinson, second vice president; Mrs. Charlotte Mabe, recording secretary; Miss Edna Whitaker, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Nona Polly, treasurer. They will be installed in May.

## ospital considers site offers

of Appalachian hospitals Inc. are seeking to determine whether they lease available a portable Whitesburg hospital for use as sites for a college and a health

The matter will be referred to the federal Community Facilities Administration at Atlanta for a decision.

The board elected Lexington financier Garvice D. Kincaid to membership and promptly named him chairman of the ARH board of trustees. Also elected to board membership were E. Minor Pace of Wheelwright, general manager of Inland Steel Corporation properties there; Herndon Evans of Lexington, editor of the Lexington Herald, and Mrs. John Sherman Cooper of Washington, D. C., and Somerset, wife of the United States Senator from Kentucky. Kincaid succeeds Dr. Kenneth G. Neigh of New York as chairman of the board; the doctor will remain on the board.

Lon Rogers, Pikeville attorney, was re-elected vice chairman of the board; Maurice K. Henry of Middlesboro was named treasurer, and Dr. James Moak of Lexington was re-elected secretary.

Dr. Karl S. Klicka became president of the hospital corporation in an action changing his title from executive director. Two assistant directors, Dr. O. J. Wilson and Jay G. Coberly, became vice presidents.

The trustees voted to accept a \$4.1 million loan from the federal Area Redevelopment Ad-

ministration to permit purchase of the five remaining hospitals in the Miners Memorial Hospital Association.

The trustees "with reluctance" authorized discontinuance of negotiations with the Catholic Benedictine Sisters on a proposal for joint operation of one community hospital in Hazard. The trustees were informed that the sisters had not replied formally to an invitation extended to them by ARHI last December. Then the board authorized Klicka to develop plans for construction of a 78-bed addition to the 72-bed ARHI hospital at Hazard.

Reports made to the trustees indicated that patient occupancy of the five hospitals now in the ARHI chain rose from 68.3 per cent in October to 85.1 per cent in March.

In other action this week, ARHI set up a 14-member committee headed by former Lt. Gov. Wilson W. Wyatt to serve as a fund-raising organization. The group will attempt to raise \$4,280,000 to finance 18 ARHI training programs for physicians and other medical personnel over the next five years. Kendall Boggs, assistant superintendent of Letcher County schools, was named to the committee.

Dr. Wilson will direct activities of the fund-raising group.

Dr. M. Caudill of Whitesburg County's representative on the board of trustees of the hospital. He requested a request of the advisory council of the hospital to the trustees at a meeting in Middlesboro this week. The council had asked for a request of a committee working with the Whitesburg college community of Kentucky to purchase the hospital property as a site for the college. County Atty. M. Caudill also had an interest in part of the hospital property as a possible site for the new county hospital to be constructed

pointed out that the government, which is the owner of the hospital property, stipulated original use of the hospital property only for health purposes and added that the property was covered by a mort-