

Early purchase recommended

## County history heads reading list

"Walker County History" has been at the top of local reading lists for the past 10 days, according to Dr. Mary Frances Park, co-chairman of the book.

"Readers have found hours of entertaining family stories and enlightening articles relating historical information on communities, churches and schools, as well as Walker County and the city of Huntsville," Park said.

Countless photographs throughout the book "reveal the charm and contrast of the past," she added.

Additionally, the book contains histories of businesses and organizations. There is a special section on the military and a memorial to the men who died in battle.

A large crowd attended the presentation of the book in ceremonies July 13 at the First United Methodist Church. Many who had ordered the book before publication received their copies

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that afternoon.

Most pre-paid books have been distributed and many new sales have been made.

About 850 copies have been sold and picked up, according to Lucy Alice Stewart, history book co-chairman.

Curtis Media, publisher, is shipping books here several times a week. Many residents are buying six to eight books at a time as Christmas gifts for family members since the price of \$57.82 is expected to increase about Aug. 15, Stewart said.

The Walker County Genealogical Society and the Walker County Historical Commission are co-sponsors of the book. Members of the two organizations urge residents to

examine the publication on display at the Huntsville Public Library and make their purchase early.

After 1,000 books are sold, those organizations will begin receiving an increased percentage from sales.

The Genealogical Society will use any money made to assist the library in obtaining additional materials for historical and genealogical research.

According to James Patton, the historical commission will utilize any profits for the maintenance and improvement of the Gibbs-Powell Home, Walker County's museum.

Books are available at the public library between 1 and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The current cost is \$57.82.



Richard Wong photo

## History for sale

Margarette Rathke, treasurer of the Walker County History Committee, writes out a receipt for the "Walker County History Book." The book will be available for purchase at the Huntsville Public Library from 1 to 4 p.m. until Aug. 15th.