

# The Franklin Press

and  
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## \$250,000 IN GI REFUNDS TO BE RECEIVED HERE

Macon Veterans To Share In U. S. Insurance Dividend

Macon County veterans will receive an estimated quarter of a million dollars in National Service Life (GI) insurance special dividends the first half of 1950, and a few veterans here already have received their dividend checks.

This county had approximately 2,000 men in the armed forces during World War 2, according to R. E. (Tony) Welch, veterans service officer, and at least three-fourth of them, or 1,500, are believed to be living in the county now.

Since the national average of the refunds is about \$175, the total for this county, on a basis of 1,500 veterans, will be \$252,500. Mr. Welch added that he felt the total of 1,500 veterans now in this county is conservative.

The dividends are to be paid over a six-month period, January 1 to June 30.

The Bank of Franklin yesterday reported that only a few of the veterans' dividend checks have been presented at the bank so far.

The Veterans Administration has outlined a program for processing the applications under which the last three figures in the serial number would determine the order in which checks would be paid. Thus a man whose number ended in 001 would be among the first paid, while a man whose serial number ended with the figures 999 would be among the last to receive his check.

The total amount of the dividend—distributed on the theory that the mortality rate was lower than anticipated, and that the premium charge therefore was too high—is \$2,800,000,000. This is to be divided among approximately 16,000,000 veterans.

The Veterans Administration goal is to mail 200,000 checks a day five days a week, or 1,000,000 checks a week.

The dividend payments to the families of deceased veterans will be handled separately.

## Swafford Accepts Call To Mount Hope Church

The Rev. Arvil Swafford, of near Franklin, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Mt. Hope Baptist church, in the Cartoogechaye community. Mr. Swafford succeeds the Rev. W. L. Sorrells, who has taken the pastorate of the Cowee Baptist church.

## Do You Remember . . . ?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Our contractor and builder, Mr. L. M. Johnson, and two sons are building a new school house near the Black place on Nantahala. Rev. J. A. Deal of Franklin township gave the contract. We learn that Mr. Johnson, who has been teaching out there, is an efficient instructor and by his genial disposition has won the esteem and friendship of his neighbors.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Last Saturday, the darkest and rainiest day of the year, Roy Cunningham, Jack Sherrill, and Tom McCollum walked across the Nantahalas. These boys must have been greatly in need of exercise.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Although the high school faculty includes very capable basketball coaches for both boys and girls, there will not be any basketball at the school this year, due to the fact there is no gymnasium.

The Rev. Frank Bloxham left today for a speaking tour in the North. While away he will address gatherings of people in Massachusetts and in New York and vicinity. He is expected to return about Feb. 10.



**MARRIED 61 YEARS**—It is considered remarkable when a couple celebrates a golden wedding (50 years) anniversary, but Mr. and Mrs. George O. Wallace (above) have been married 61 years. Their wedding occurred January 10, 1889—long before most of those who read this were born. Through Mr. Wallace is 83 and Mrs. Wallace is 79, they live alone, and Mr. Wallace looks after his team and other livestock, while Mrs. Wallace does her own housekeeping at their home on the Murphy road. They are natives of this county, Mrs. Wallace having been Miss Lou Stalcup, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William (Bill) Stalcup. In addition to eight living children, they have 39 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. The children are Mrs. George Stalcup, Mrs. Burrell Waldrup, Mrs. W. R. Pressley, Mrs. Gilmer Waldrup, and John and Ernest Wallace, all of Franklin, Route 1, Mrs. T. M. Green, of Detroit, Mich., and Edwin Wallace, of Franklin.

## FOREST TO PAY MACON \$9,503

Six Counties To Share \$26,740, Fourth Of Receipts

Macon County shortly will receive \$9,503.26 as its share of the Nantahala National Forests receipts during the fiscal year ended last June 30, it was announced this week by E. W. Renshaw, forest supervisor.

One-fourth of the receipts of the National Forest are distributed each year to the six counties in which the forest lies, in lieu of taxes on the federally-owned land within the forest, and Macon gets slightly more than one-third of the total, since more than a third of the forest lies within this county's boundaries.

The total for the six counties this year is \$26,740.12, which is approximately \$4,000 greater than the amount distributed a year ago. The payment represents a return to the counties of approximately 6 1/2 cents per acre.

The six counties, their forest acreage, and the amount each is to receive follows:

County	Acreage	Amount
Cherokee	77,385	\$4,996.78
Clay	57,108	3,687.36
Graham	103,787	6,701.57
Jackson	18,888	1,219.63
Macon	147,177	9,503.26
Swain	9,780	631.52

In addition to the amount distributed direct to the counties, Mr. Renshaw explained, 10 per cent of the gross receipts of the forest is made available by the national government for construction and maintenance of roads within the forest. Other costs of protecting and administering this and the other national forest are born by federal appropriations.

Practically all of the income earned on the Nantahala National Forest was from the sale of timber, with small amounts from special land use permits. During the fiscal year 1949, 36,359,000 board feet of sawtimber, acidwood, pulpwood, crossties, posts and fuel wood was cut. All timber for sawlogs or pulpwood was marked for cutting by U. S. Forest officers and was done under a long-range timber management plan which insures a steady increase in growth, it was pointed out. A large volume of chestnut acidwood was moved during the year, but demand for this product has diminished.

Plans are being made to cut increasing amounts of pulpwood to supply the market. National forest timber in Western North Carolina is an important source of raw materials for the lumber, pulp and wood-working industries and an important source of employment for woods labor, Mr. Renshaw said. The Pisgah-Croatan National Forest, which is also located in North Carolina, in the area east of the Nantahala National Forest, returned \$58,734.83 to 18 counties. This made a total return to North Carolina counties of \$85,498.47 for the 1,066,649 acres of national forest in the state.

## Temperance Play To Be Given At Half Dozen Churches

A temperance play, "Prisoner at the Bar", will be presented at half a dozen churches in this community during the next two weeks.

Depicting a courtroom scene, the trial of a man charged with murdering his wife while under the influence of drink, the play is presented by local talent, except for two roles taken by representatives of the Methodist board of temperance. While the drama is sponsored by the Methodist church, persons of other denominations will take part, and in some cases the play will be presented in churches of other denominations.

It will be given first at the Franklin Methodist church, next Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock, with members of various denominations taking part.

W. W. Sloan will have the role of the judge, Mrs. E. W. Renshaw, the star witness; the Rev. Hoyt Evans, fingerprint expert; Linda Kay Shope, the defendant's little daughter; the Rev. C. E. Murray, defense attorney; John D. Alsop, sheriff; William Katenbrink, bailiff; J. Clinton Brookshire, clerk of the court; and Gordon Moore, foreman of the jury.

In all the presentations, representative of the Methodist board of temperance will take the roles of the prosecuting attorney and the prisoner at the bar.

The play will be given February 1 at the Iotia Methodist church, with the Iotia Baptists cooperating; February 2, at Union Methodist church; February 3, at Asbury Methodist church; February 8 at Clark's Chapel; and February 10 at the Cowee Baptist church, with the Snow Hill Methodist church cooperating. All these performances are set for 7:30 p. m.

## Merchants Will Hold Second Meet Tonight

Merchants of Macon County are called to meet at the courthouse tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 o'clock to perfect the organization of a merchants association. A temporary organization was set up January 10, and at that meeting the temporary officers and directors were named as a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws and obtain general information for action of the members at tonight's session.

## Macon's Birth Rate Drops 26 Per Cent

Births in Macon County last year showed a 26 per cent drop. The total number of births in this county in 1949, according to figures compiled by Lake V. Shope, Macon County keeper of vital statistics, was 358. This compares with 452 in 1948, 431 in 1947, 468 in 1946, and 457 in 1945.

Based on this county's 1940 population of 15,880, the birth rate per thousand population was just under 23.

Despite the abrupt decrease in births, however, there were

## MEADOWS TOPS POSTMASTER'S ELIGIBLE LIST

He, Crawford, And White Make High Grades On Examination

Zeb Meadows, young navy veteran of the Iotia community, took top rank in the civil service examination for the postmastership at Franklin, it was learned here this week.

The next two high men in order, were John L. Crawford, also a veteran, who is connected with the Franklin Hardware company, and Everette R. White, teacher at the Cullasaja school.

Under the law, the three making the highest grades on the examination constitute the eligible list, and the appointment must be from the eligible list.

The 12 taking the examination, given here last August 13, were notified last week-end what their grades were, and told their respective ranks in the list.

From the eligible list, Representative Monroe M. Redden is expected to make a recommendation, and President Truman presumably will appoint the man recommended by the congressman.

Mr. Redden told The Press by telephone yesterday that it has been his policy, where appointments are to be made, to favor veterans, other things being equal. He added that no recommendation will be made to the President until he has had an opportunity to consult with Democratic leaders here.

The standings of others who took the examinations, it was learned, were: Lester L. Arnold, fourth place; Fred L. Hannah, fifth; E. O. Rickman, sixth; Bill Bryson, seventh; and E. W. Long, who is now serving as acting postmaster, eighth.

Four others — Woodrow W. Gibson, Frank I. Murray, William Frank Plyler, and James P. Wurst—were given no grades, having been ruled out by the Civil Service commission as lacking the necessary business experience or other qualifications.

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## Wayne Proffitt

Takes Up Ag Teacher Duties Here

Wayne Proffitt, of Burnsville, has reported for duty as the new vocational agriculture teacher at Franklin High school. He succeeds E. J. Whitmire, Jr., resigned.

Mr. Proffitt comes to Franklin from Polk county, where he has been assistant vocational agriculture teacher at the Green Creek High school since last June.

He is a graduate of the Bald Creek High school, in Yancey county, and received his B. S. degree from Berea college, Berea, Ky., last June. While attending Berea, he did his practice teaching at the University of Kentucky, at Lexington.

His position as agriculture teacher also carries with it supervision of the veterans' farm training program in this county, in which 200 veterans are being taught by 10 assistants. Sixty-six Future Farmers of America are enrolled in the school vocational agriculture course.

Mr. Whitmire will work with Mr. Proffitt until February 1. Mrs. Proffitt, the former Miss Kathleen King, of Burnsville, expects to join Mr. Proffitt here early in February. She is now serving as dental technician in Burnsville.

## IS CANDIDATE



MISS KATE MCGEE For Clerk of Court

## MISS M'GEE IS OUT FOR CLERK

Franklin Woman To Seek Democratic Nomination In Spring Primary

The announcement this week of Miss Kate McGee, widely known Franklin woman, that she plans to file for the office of clerk of superior court in the primary to be held in May raised to four the number of county candidates seeking Democratic party nominations.

Miss McGee, a native of Macon County, is the daughter of the late George W. McGee and Mrs. Anna McGee. Born in Cartoogechaye township, Miss McGee now makes her home with her mother in Franklin. She is a graduate of Franklin High school and Cecil's Business college.

At present she is employed as a clerk in the office of the register of deeds, a position she has held for the past four years. Prior to her employment there, she served for three years as a clerk for the Macon County Ration board. Following her graduation from Cecil's Business college, she was employed as a secretary by Dr. Furman Angel for two years.

Active in community affairs, she is vice-president of the local Young Democrats club. She is a member of the Franklin Baptist church and teaches a Sunday school class in the beginners' department.

Other candidates who have announced their intention to file in the party primary are Harry Thomas, and Lester Arnold, for the office of sheriff, and C. E. Elmore, for representative.

## All Officials

Of Building And Loan Are Re-elected

Stockholders in the Macon County Building and Loan association, at their annual meeting Thursday night of last week, re-elected all the association's directors, and the directors, in a meeting following that of the stockholders, re-elected all officers.

The officers are: H. W. Cabe, president; H. L. Bryant, vice-president; and R. S. Jones, secretary-treasurer.

Directors are Mr. Cabe, Mr. Bryant, L. C. Henderson, George A. Mashburn, W. E. Hunnicutt, J. S. Conley, Robert Fulton, H. T. Sloan, M. L. Dowdle, and A. B. Slagle.

The association lists assets of \$270,000.

## MACON'S PROPERTY VALUATION DOUBLES IN 7-YEAR PERIOD

C. Of C. Dinner

Meeting Is Deferred To February 25

The annual dinner meeting of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce, at which Senator Frank P. Graham will be the guest speaker, will be held February 25 instead of February 4, it was announced this week by Frank B. Duncan, president of the organization.

When Senator Graham telephoned Tuesday of last week to say that his senatorial duties made it impossible for him to come to Franklin last Wednesday, when the dinner originally was scheduled, he was asked for another date and suggested February 4.

He telephoned against last Thursday, however, suggesting that a study of the congressional calendar indicated a similar situation might arise on February 4, and that he thought it better to offer to come on a date when he was sure he could be here.

Barring illness, he said, he could come on Saturday, February 25, and the Chamber of Commerce officials postponed the meeting till that date.

## Urges Prompt And Generous Polio Gifts

The annual March of Dimes campaign for funds to carry on the fight against infantile paralysis is under way in this county, and J. Clinton Brookshire, 1950 campaign chairman here, this week issued an appeal to Macon County people to contribute promptly, so that the campaign can be completed without delay, and generously, so that it may be successful, as polio campaigns always are in this county.

No county goals were set this year, but each county in the state is asked to raise more than they did in 1949. This county's contributions to the cause last year totaled \$3,665.

In order to save time, letters asking donations this year were addressed to "box holders", rather than to individuals, and Mr. Brookshire asked those receiving these letters to read them carefully, and then forward their contributions. All donations should be sent to Claude Bolton, treasurer, at Franklin, or made through March of Dimes workers.

Meanwhile, coin collectors, shaped like the iron lungs which have often been used in polio cases, and coin holders have been distributed throughout the county.

An organization of workers has been set up, with the school principal in each community serving as school and community chairman. The exceptions are Franklin and Highlands. For Franklin township, Mrs. Milton Hyde is chairman, while Principal R. G. Sutton is in charge of the campaign in the Franklin school. In Highlands, the Rotary club is conducting the drive.

Other community - school chairmen are:

Union, Mrs. Lucy Bradley; Otto, E. G. Crawford; Iotia, Mrs. Marie Roper; Cowee, E. J. Carpenter; Watauga, J. B. Brendle; Oak Ridge, Mrs. Vernon Higdon; Holly Springs, Mrs. May McCoy; Cullasaja, W. G. Crawford; Clark's Chapel, Mrs. Hazel Sutton; Slagle, Norman West; Otter Creek, Carl D. Moses; Kyle, Carl Talley; Scaly, Mrs. Paul Grist; Mountain Grove, Mrs. Georgia Young; and the Negro community, G. L. Hines.

## January 31 Deadline For Buying Auto Tags

Next Tuesday is the last day motorists here may legally use 1949 automobile license tags, the state department of motor vehicles has emphasized. After that date (January 31), persons driving without 1950 tags will be subject to arrest.

## Business, Farm, Home Growth Accounts For 3 Millions

Macon County's tax valuation has more than doubled in the past seven years.

It has doubled—with nearly a million and a half dollars to spare—in 10 years.

And County Supt. G. L. Houk has stated that he has learned the Nantahala Power and Light company valuation will be boosted by another half-million dollars, as of January 1, 1950. This will bring the total to more than 12 1/2 million dollars.

The Nantahala company increase, Mr. Houk explained, reflects the completion of two new power company projects during 1949, those at Queens Creek and White Oak.

Seven years ago all Macon County property listed for taxation was on the tax books at a total slightly less than 6 million dollars.

Ten years ago the total was only \$5,378,000.

The figure for 1949 was \$12,175,000.

The increase, in 10 years, was 126 per cent.

While developments of the Nantahala Power and Light company during the past decade account for 55 per cent of the \$6,796,718 increase, \$3,084,966 increase has come as the result of new or enlarged small businesses, new homes, increased land values, etc.—normal community growth.

Some years have shown a much greater increase than others. 1943, for example, showed a gain of more than 2 millions over 1942, and 1945 showed a gain of nearly 1 1/2 millions over the previous year.

The increase has been steady, however, a substantial jump having been noted each year.

The figures, by years, follow:

1940	\$5,378,391
1941	5,772,399
1942	5,995,812
1943	8,282,909
1944	8,310,437
1945	9,714,756
1946	9,767,960
1947	10,768,551
1948	11,047,793
1949	12,175,109

In 1940 the power company listed property for taxes in nine Macon County townships totaling \$254,828.

Last year it had property in all of this county's townships, and the total stood at \$3,966,580, a 10-year increase of \$3,711,952.

The company's valuations by townships in 1949 was as follows:

Franklin, \$114,470; Millsboro, \$85,445; Ellijay, \$3,265; Sugarfork, \$1,880; Highlands, \$2,890; Flats, \$940; Smithbridge, \$3,220; Cartoogechaye, \$5,550; Burningtown, \$5,625; Cowee, \$11,750; and Nantahala, \$3,731,545.

Since the Queens Creek and White Oak projects are in Nantahala township, the reported 1950 increase for those projects will boost the total in that township to more than four million dollars.

## WILL HOLD BINGO PARTY

A Bingo party, for the benefit of the infantile paralysis fund, will be held at the Cullasaja school Saturday evening, sponsored by the teachers.

## CRITICALLY ILL

Mrs. John Fulton yesterday was reported critically ill at her home in the Bethel community.

## The Weather

Temperatures and precipitation for the past seven days, and the low temperature, yesterday, as recorded at the Coweeta Experiment station.

	High	Low	Pct.
Wednesday	59	37	.54
Thursday	58	50	1.35
Friday	47	37	.08
Saturday	58	37	.08
Sunday	63	31	...
Monday	58	41	...
Tuesday	58	42	trace
Wednesday	54	41	.01

## FRANKLIN RAINFALL

(As recorded by Manson Stiles for TVA)

Wednesday, .43 of an inch; Thursday, 1.69; Friday, .14; Saturday, none; Sunday, none; Monday, trace; Tuesday, .01; Wednesday, trace.