

Diplomas Conferred 115 Macon Seniors

One-hundred and fifteen high school seniors stepped out into the "big, wide world" this week, following commencement exercises at Macon's three high schools — Franklin, Highlands, and Nantahala.

The departing seniors' shoes were more than filled, however, by a large number of eighth graders who will move to high school this fall. One-hundred and ninety-four were promoted at nine of the county's 11 elementary schools. Figures were not available from Highlands and Nantahala.

Diplomas were conferred on 101 Franklin High school seniors by County School Supt. Holland McSwain Monday afternoon at Macon theatre. The valedictory address was given by Miss George Nell McDonald, the salutatory address by Miss Martha Ann Stockton. "America," "Marco Polo," and "Blue-Tail Fly," were played by the Franklin band. The invocation and benediction were given by the Rev. C. E. Murray, pastor of the Franklin Methodist church.

Twenty-three special awards were made to students by Principal R. G. Sutton, including three cash awards by Dr. Furman Angel to Grady Corbin, voted the most valuable player on the high school football team, Miss Jean Setser, an outstanding member of the girls' basketball team, and Mrs. Edith S. Hemphill, fifth grade teacher at Franklin elementary school.

Special gifts were presented to the seniors by Mayor W. C. Burrell, and J. C. Crisp, Franklin photographer, gave each graduate a group picture of the graduating class.

Special tribute was paid to the senior class sponsors, Mrs. Marie G. Stewart and Mrs. Katherine P. Matthews, by Mr. Sutton, for their untiring efforts. Music was under the direction of S. F. Beck, band director, and Mrs. Henry W. Cabe, pianist.

The Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, rector of the St. Agnes Episcopal church, delivered the baccalaureate sermon to Franklin High's graduating class Sunday evening at Macon theatre. The invocation and benediction were given by the Rev. C. E. Murray, pastor of the Franklin Methodist church, and the Rev. M. W. Chapman, pastor of the First Baptist church, gave the scripture lesson and prayer. The high school chorus, under the direction of S. F. (Sammy) Beck, sang "Hear Our Prayer," and a quartet, composed of Misses Audrey Hays and Libby Murray, Sam Holland, and Bryan Hurst, sang "Thanks Be To God." The processional, a march from "Aida," and the recessional, a march from "Tannhauser," was played by Mrs. Henry W. Cabe, pianist.

Franklin High's graduating class was made up of 42 boys and 59 girls.

They were Ann Blaine, Barbara Shepherd, Betty Burch, Caroline Crawford, Dorothy Medlin, Ella Jo Bishop, Patsy Arnold, Libby Murray, Iris Long, Virginia Setser, Mary Ann Killian, Emma Lou Ramsey, Betty Henry, Kathryn Roten, Mary Frances Bingham, Betty Guffey, Olga Kimsey, Betty Angel, Ruby Dehart, Catherine Cunningham, Martha Nell Penland, Carol Lee

Local Airman Given Medal At Ceremony

S. Sgt. Grady J. Green, a veteran of more than 27 bombing missions over Korea, was awarded the Air Medal at a ceremony held on the island of Okinawa in February, it has been learned here.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Green, of Franklin, Route 1, he received the medal for "meritorious conduct in flying missions over enemy territory."

S. Sgt. Green, who entered the air force in August, 1950, recently was promoted to his present rank and at that time had completed his 27th mission over Korea.

He took basic training at Randolph Air Force base, Tex., and received B-29 gunnery training at Lowry Air Force base, Denver, Colo.

LEGION TEAM OPENS SEASON IN CHEROKEE

First Home Game Slated
Wednesday; Practice
Turnout Urged

The newly-organized American Legion Junior Baseball team here will move into the first of a 12-game schedule Monday afternoon at Cherokee.

Cherokee will journey here Wednesday for the local's first home game. Play will get under way at 2 p. m.

All boys in the county who will not reach their 18th birthday this year are eligible to try-out for the team and are urged to turn out at practice sessions this week at the Franklin athletic field. Practice will start each afternoon at 2 o'clock.

The team's schedule is a split one, listing six home games and six away. The locals will play junior Legion nines from Cherokee, Canton, and West Asheville.

Coaching the team is the Rev. M. W. Chapman, and his assistant is C. Banks Finger. Franklin High Coach Dick Stott has been putting the lads through their paces for the past several weeks, but is unable to continue with the team for the summer because of previous commitments.

The schedule follows:
June 2, Franklin at Cherokee; June 4, Cherokee at Franklin; June 7, Franklin at W. Asheville; June 10, Canton at Franklin; June 13, W. Asheville at Franklin; June 16, Franklin at Canton; June 17, Cherokee at Franklin; June 19, Franklin at W. Asheville; June 23, Franklin at Cherokee; June 25, W. Asheville at Franklin; June 28, Canton at Franklin; July 1, Franklin at Canton.

Franklin's home games will be played in the afternoon, because of inadequate lighting facilities at the athletic field.

Funds for the formation of a Legion team were raised here through the sale of memberships, entitling the bearer admittance to all home games.

Uniforms for the team have been ordered and should arrive here this week, according to Mr. Finger.



Clyde Sanders, of Franklin, is shown with the five-pound small mouth bass he pulled out of Nantahala lake last Thursday evening about 8 o'clock. Dock attendants said the fish was one of the largest to come out of the power lake. Mr. Sanders

Rosman Youth Is First 1952 Road Fatality

A 24-year-old Rosman youth Saturday night became Macon County's first highway fatality in 1952 when his automobile failed to negotiate a sharp curve in heavy rain near Highlands and pitched over a 12-foot culvert.

He was identified by the investigating officer, Highway Patrolman V. E. Bryson, as Frank E. Hensley, father of three children.

The wreck happened about 6:30 p. m. on US 64, some three miles north of Highlands.

Four men, who got out of the car just prior to the accident, were arrested and jailed for public drunkenness. All five had been drinking, the patrolman said.

Young Hensley's body was pinned beneath the vehicle and he died of chest and head injuries. Damage to the car was light.

Patrolman Bryson said his companions were Arthur Orr, 38, of Rosman, E. D. Griffin, 50, of Brevard, John Griffin, 18, also of Brevard, and Earnest Gaddy, 25, of Rosman.

Tea Planned Honoring Gold Star Mothers

All Gold Star mothers in the county will be honored at a tea Sunday afternoon by the Veterans of Foreign Wars ladies auxiliary, it has been announced.

The tea will be held from 3 to 5 o'clock at the post home on Palmer street.

Since the auxiliary does not have a complete list of Gold Star mothers in the county, it has extended an invitation for all Gold Star mothers to call during the afternoon.

According to auxiliary officers, plans have been made to serve some 150 mothers, guests, and auxiliary members.

Meeting Of Town Board Canceled; Set June 16

Due to the absence from town of several of the board members, Monday night's scheduled meeting of the Franklin board of aldermen has been canceled, it was announced this week.

The board will meet, instead, on Monday night, June 16.

The American Legion auxiliary will meet Monday at 8 p. m. at Slagle Memorial, it has been announced. Mrs. Lon Dalton and Mrs. Frank Murray will be hostesses.

LOW BID FOR ROAD PROJECT IS ANNOUNCED

Sum Is \$618,856.70 For
Franklin-Cowee Gap
New Highway

A low bid of \$618,856.70 was received yesterday (Wednesday) by the State Highway commission for construction and relocation of a 7.34-mile highway from Franklin to Cowee Gap (US 23) at the Macon-Jackson county line.

The bid will be reviewed by the commission at its next meeting and, if found satisfactory, will be forwarded to the Bureau of Public Roads for final approval before contract for the project is let, it is understood.

Companies submitting low bids on the project were: Paying, J. C. Critcher, Inc., Asheville, \$520,703.50; structures, Dickerson, Inc., Monroe, \$86,933.20; moving buildings, C. A. Widenhouse, Concord, \$11,215.

According to W. N. Corkill, 10th division highway engineer, the proposed highway will follow the existing road, but will eliminate most of the sweeping curves and will cut approximately one mile from the present distance from Franklin to Cowee Gap.

Rabbit Creek bridge, at the foot of Hunnicutt hill, will be replaced by a culvert and Watauga bridge will be widened, the engineer said.

A 22-foot highway with 10 foot shoulders is proposed.

SEE NO. 3, PAGE 6

194 EIGHTH GRADERS RECEIVE PROMOTIONS TO HIGH SCHOOL

One-hundred and ninety-four students were promoted to high school at elementary school ceremonies throughout the county this week.

The figure includes only those promoted at nine of Macon's 11 schools. Promotions at Highlands and Nantahala were not available at press time.

Fourteen were presented promotion certificates at Union school by R. G. Sutton, Franklin school district supervising principal, at exercises Monday night. The program featured a reading of the class history, prophecy, the last will and testament, and singing of the class song, and three recitations. Receiving certificates were Barbara Cunningham, Dewette Marshall, Faye Ledford, Willa Jean Ledford, Doris Teague, Annie Sue McConnell, Bobby Teague, Curtis Hopkins, Barbara Sanders, Shirley Thomas, Rita Jean Cabe, Geneva Payne, Betty Shope, and Joyce Gribble. Mrs. Lucy C. Bradley is the Union principal.

Promotion exercises were held at the Chapel (Negro) School last Thursday evening. County School Supt. Holland McSwain presented certificates to Gilmer Thomas, Samuel Ledford, Mary Harshaw, and Cora Stewart.

Cullasaja school's eighth grade exercises were held Monday night at the school. Certificates were presented to 32 students being promoted to high school by Principal Weaver Shope. Mrs. Holland McSwain played for the program, which also featured the singing of the class song, "Follow The Gleam," and a summary of the year's work by the students. The invocation was given by the Rev. Fred Sorrells.

Those promoted at Cullasaja were Allen Berry, Wiley Bowers, Frank Conley, Lloyd Cook, Tommy Corbin, Kenneth Dills, Eugene Estes, Larry Estes, Lyle Estes, Jerry Finney, Carroll Gregory, Judson Hall, Donald Henry, Shirley Holland, Fredrick Keener, Shirley McCall, Billy Rhodes, Lloyd Stewman, Otis Stiwinter, Willis Teem, Tommy Webb, Lawrence Wood, Wardie Young, Dorothy Barrett, Bernice Cook, Joann Estes, Mattie Pearl Frady, Carolyn Henderson, Rozelle Lequire, Alice Mashburn, Hester Peek, and Geraldine Stiwinter.

Twenty-one eighth graders at Cowee received certificates at exercises Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock. Presentations were made by County Supt. Holland McSwain. Principal T. T. Love made citizenship and attendance awards. The occasion

Predicts Light Vote In Primary Saturday

SUMMER HOME ROBBED; SEEK INFORMATION

Two Rewards Offered For
Parties Looting
Highlands Home

Information concerning the robbery of a Highlands summer home is being sought by the sheriff's office.

Several articles of furniture, linens, and a vacuum cleaner were discovered missing from the home of Capt. E. A. Niblack on the Flat Mountain road last week, according to Sheriff J. Hardy Thomas.

The actual date of the robbery is not known since the owner has been in Mississippi for the winter, he added.

Sheriff Thomas theorized that, because of the large amount missing, a truck was used in the robbery.

Capt. Niblack and the sheriff's department are offering rewards for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the robbers.

Persons having any information are asked to contact Sheriff Thomas.

SEE NO. 3, PAGE 6

Macon Man Is National Democratic Convention Alternate

Clyde N. West, of the West's Mill community, was named an alternate delegate to the national Democratic convention from the 12th congressional district at a district caucus preceding the state party convention in Raleigh last Thursday.

Mrs. George Byrd and Jack H. Potts, both of this county, were selected to serve on the state executive committee, and two others, Morgan Shatley and Mrs. Earl Justice, were elected to the district executive party committee.

Named to serve on the 20th judicial district committee were R. S. Jones and C. S. Slagle.

Two Graduated With Honors At Teachers College

Miss Jessica Angel and Mrs. Ann Cabe Ramsey, both of Franklin, were graduated with honors from Western Carolina Teachers college, Cullowhee, at commencement exercises Monday. Both received Bachelor of Science degrees.

Miss Ada Ruth West, of West's Mills, received a Bachelor of Arts degree at the commencement, and B.S. degrees also were awarded to Miss Aitha Joyce Huggins, and Miss Leona Emma Southard, both of Franklin, and Dennis Virgil Stamey, of Cullasaja.

The commencement was marked by the conferring of the college's first honorary degrees—Doctor of Laws on Judge Felix E. Alley, of Waynesville, and Doctor of Literature on D. Hiden Ramsey, of Asheville, newspaper executive and vice chairman of the state board of education.

Awards Made To 21 School Bus Drivers

Safe driving certificates and pocket cards have been awarded to 21 full-time school bus drivers in the county, County School Supt. Holland McSwain announced Tuesday.

Drivers, by schools, are: Franklin, Bill Bradley, Lawrence Justice, O. V. Fuller, Grady Reece, and Cecil Baldwin; East Franklin, Tom Thompson; Cullasaja, Cecil Holland, Ed Cabe, and Georgia H. Young; Cowee, Ray Houston, Carroll Gibson, and Marvin Barker; Otto, Miller Norris; Cartoogechaye, W. N. Dalrymple; Iotla, Claude Roper; Nantahala, Newman Wilson; Highlands, Marcellus Ivester, George Wilson, and Wallace Henry; Chapel, Charlie Harshaw, and Gus England.

Awards were made only to those driving full-time, the superintendent said. Those recognized were recommended by R. L. Blaine, head mechanic of the school system, and school principals. Final approval was given by Mr. McSwain.

The certificate reads, "in recognition of the valuable services rendered and the superior quality of leadership displayed while operating a school bus with an excellent record of safety." Each was signed by C. C. Brown, state director of transportation.

Mrs. Jones Will Present Piano Pupils In Recital Here Saturday Evening

Mrs. Weimar Jones will present her piano pupils in annual recital at the Franklin Methodist church Saturday evening at 8 o'clock. All interested persons are invited, Mrs. Jones said.

The scheduled meeting of the Macon County Citizens' Committee for Education tonight (Thursday) has been postponed, according to Harve L. Bryant, president. Announcement will be made later of the next meeting.

Interest Here Centered On Governor, School Board Races

A light vote is predicted in the Democratic primary Saturday with only 36 candidates seeking nomination to state, congressional, and county offices.

Polls open at 6:30 a. m. and close at 6:30 p. m.

The hot activity and bush-beating of past elections is missing, supposedly because of the relatively small slate of candidates. Electioneering for the most part is still in the whisper stages. Many, however, are marking the primary as a "sleeper".

For the most part, the interest of Macon County voters will be in the gubernatorial, state senatorial, congressional, and county board of education races, in the off-season balloting.

Although in the whisper stages, the local education board race has all the earmarks of being a hotly contested one as Saturday moves closer. Twelve candidates are seeking nomination to the five-member board, including two women and two incumbents.

They are: John M. Archer, Jr., of Franklin, president of the Nantahala Power and Light company.

Neville Bryson, of Highlands, the son of Walter Bryson, a retiring member of the board of education, who is in business with his father.

Claude W. Cabe, of Otto, an employee of the State Highway and Public Works commission here.

W. C. Calhoun, of Franklin, Route 3, a retired farmer who moved here from his native Swain county nine years ago. Served on the board of county commissioners in Swain and is a former deputy sheriff.

Mrs. Joseph W. Fouts, of Franklin, operator of a Franklin kindergarten. Native of Wake county and resident here for three years.

Charles A. Jacobs, a farmer in the Nantahala community. Charles W. Nolen, of Cartoogechaye, incumbent seeking second two-year term.

James R. Norris, Jr., of Dillard, Ga., Route 1, operator of a store on the Georgia road.

Mrs. Roy Phillips, of Highlands, operator of a grocery store in the Shortoff community and mother-in-law of candidate Bryson.

Calvin Roland, of Franklin, Macon County jailer.

A. A. Siler, of Franklin, associated with Macon Construction company.

J. C. Sorrells, of Cowee, incumbent seeking second two-year term, owner of J. C. Sorrells Motor company, Franklin.

Following nomination in the primary, the appointment of the education board must be made by the general assembly, which generally names those chosen by the voters. Appointments will not be confirmed by the assembly until next spring and the board will not go into office until the first Monday in April, 1953.

Although all voters in the 33rd senatorial district (Macon, Swain, Cherokee, Clay, and Graham) will cast ballots, the state senator will come from Graham county under provisions of a district rotation bill passed by the 1951 general assembly. Seeking the nomination from Graham are:

Dr. J. H. Crawford, who has served two terms in the house of representatives.

Claude Deyton, farmer and businessman, veteran of World War II.

R. B. (Jack) Morphew, who previously has served in both houses of the general assembly.

The Republican nominee is E. J. Carpenter, Franklin insurance man.

Rounding out the state senator and county officers ballot is Rep. C. Tom Bryson, of Cullasaja, who is seeking reelection to the house of representatives, and is unopposed in the primary.

The gubernatorial race is capitalizing most of the local interest and, although three are