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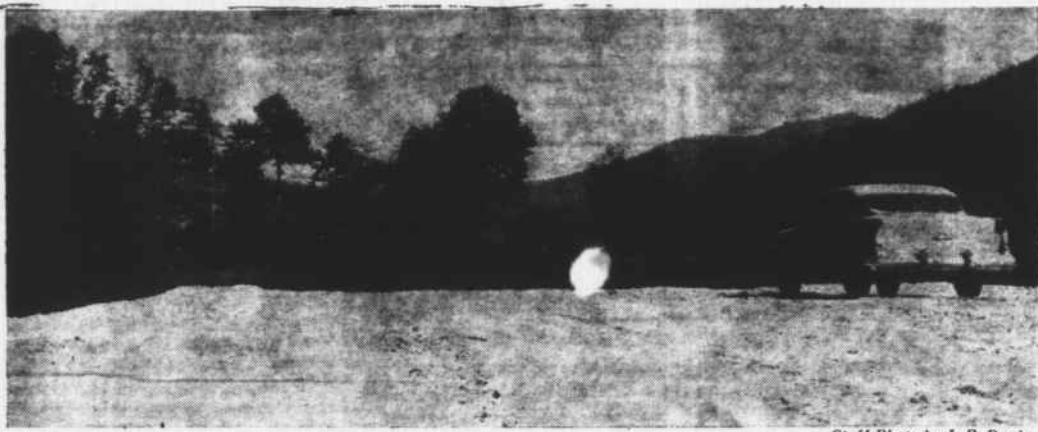
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FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, OCT. 28, 1954

FOURTEEN PAGES



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

GEORGIA'S MOVE to build a new US 23-441 from the N. C. state line south is progressing, as shown above. The picture was taken on the newly graded highway in Georgia, facing north to the N. C. state line and the abrupt change from roadbed to foliage. At a road meeting here Friday, Highway Commissioner Harry E. Buchanan said he felt this state could finish the proposed link of US 23-441 from Franklin to the state line before Georgia finishes its project.

Highway Commissioner Says N. C. Can Outbuild Georgia

Highway Commissioner Harry E. Buchanan reiterated his belief here Friday afternoon that North Carolina will be able to build a new link of US 23-441 from Franklin to the Georgia state line quicker than Georgia will be able to complete its highway construction from the state line to Tallulah Falls.

The commissioner also disclosed plans for a new survey within Franklin to connect US 23-441 and US 64, a tie-in survey for the proposed highway across Wayah Bald to Nantahala, and stressed that school bus routes are to receive top priority in use of county funds.

At a public road meeting at the courthouse, the 14th Division commissioner repeated his stand that the present US 23-441 to the Georgia state line is "far superior to Georgia's (present highway)."

Meanwhile, highway construction in Georgia from the state line south to Mountain City is well under way, with some heavy grading and filling going on. Culverts have been installed on this 4.59-mile link to Mountain City for some time. The second link from Mountain City to Clayton has not been started.

In his opening remarks to a small crowd of about 50, Mr. Buchanan said he transferred the \$450,000 set up for the Franklin-Georgia project to Jackson County last year for the completion of US 23-441 there because the allocation was not sufficient to build the proposed link all the way to the state line.

On recommendation of his engineers, the commissioner said he took the allocation and coupled it with an additional half million dollars to complete US 23-441 from Franklin through to Dillsboro. He commented that it was "unfortunate" that these two links were not let in a single contract because "you people have been blocked in for two years" because of the separate jobs.

Mr. Buchanan said he hoped to have funds available in 1955 or 1956 to do the entire Franklin-Georgia project, and he added:

"I hope it won't be a piecemeal job like the Cowee (Franklin-Dillsboro) project."

New Surveys
Commenting on local concern over the connection of US 23-441 to US 64 inside the Franklin city limits, Mr. Buchanan revealed that a survey of this project will begin here November 1.

He also disclosed that a survey is under way from Felsty
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Late News and Briefs

REPORT RECEIVED

The district attorney's office in Knoxville, Tenn., yesterday (Wednesday) reported the autopsy report ordered in the October 14 death of George H. Higdon, 52, a native of this county, gave "no indication of foul play." Death, an official said, was due to suffocation and he said the case is considered "closed" unless some new evidence comes up. Mr. Higdon was found dead in a cabin near Knoxville.

BURNETTE MOVED

The Rev. R. D. Burnette, who was injured in a fall from a tree October 16 at his home in the Bethel community, was moved from Angel Hospital to Moore General Hospital at Swannanoa on Wednesday afternoon of last week. His condition is reported as good. He is the American Sunday School field representative in this area.

NOTHING NEW IN DEATH OF MRS. PATTON

Husband En Route To Asheville; Case Still Open

No new developments have materialized in the October 16 death in Tampa, Fla., of Mrs. Louise A. Patton, wife of Robert A. (Bob) Patton, former state senator and Macon representative.

In a telephone interview yesterday (Wednesday), Detective Sgt. Pete Franks, of the Tampa Detective Bureau, said "nothing new yet" has come up. Mr. Patton, the detective said, has been given permission to visit Asheville and is en route there.

Mrs. Patton, about 65, was found dead in her gas-filled bedroom by her husband. An invalid, she had had both legs amputated in recent years because of cancer.

Sgt. Franks said an investigation is still being conducted into her death.

Mrs. Jones Given Honor At P. T. A. District Meet

Mrs. Weimar Jones, of Franklin retiring district director, was honored at the annual P. T. A. district conference in Waynesville Friday.

In appreciation of her three years' service to the 11-county district, she was presented a life membership in the National Congress of Parents and Teachers.

The presentation was made by Mrs. Doyle Alley, of Waynesville, former P. T. A. state president, immediately after Mrs. Jones, completing her term of office, had passed the gavel over to her successor, Mrs. Olin Dillard, of Candler. Mrs. Alley explained that the membership pin—a complete surprise to Mrs. Jones—was given on behalf of members throughout the district.

Earlier in the program, Mrs. John Crawford, state president, had praised the work done in this district, remarking that she previously had attended the conferences of six of the state's 10 districts, and that the report from District 1, just made by

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GRADING ON PLANT SITE UNDER WAY

Bids May Be Asked In About A Month, Engineer Reports

(See Picture, Page 10)

Grading on the site of the proposed \$3,000,000 hosiery plant of Burlington Mills just outside Franklin got under way last Thursday.

Meanwhile, W. I. English, chief engineer for Burlington Mills, said here Tuesday the corporation should be ready to advertise for bids on the plant construction in about a month. Actual construction should be under way about two weeks after the bids are received, he said. Mr. English was here overnight.

Macon Construction Company, a local concern, is grading the plant site just off US 23-441 in the old Johnston sub-division. To make way for the new plant, two homes in the area have been moved to new locations and two are being razed.

E. J. Whitmire, of Macon Construction, said grading on the site entails moving approximately 50,000 yards of dirt.

A local campaign to purchase the plant site is in the home stretch, according to W. W. Reeves, and "only a few hundred more dollars are needed"

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Gymnasium Grading Is Completed

Grading on the site of Franklin High's new gymnasium got under way Monday afternoon and the contractor yesterday (Wednesday) was preparing to pour footings for the one-story building.

E. J. Whitmire, of Macon Construction Company, said he expected no delays in constructing the gymnasium and added the walls will be put up "immediately" after the foundation goes in.

The go-ahead for building the new structure, which will be "roughed-in" for the time being until money is available to complete it, was given by the Macon County Board of Education Monday night of last week. The contractor was authorized to erect the main walls and roof and install doors and windows for \$83,000, plus \$25 per cubic yard to pour the concrete main floor. Plumbing, heating, and electrical work also is to be "roughed-in" up to the \$105,000 on hand in insurance money from the old gymnasium, which burned in March of this year.

When funds are available later, the board expressed the hope of finishing the gymnasium as specified in the plans.

About 500 cubic yards of concrete will have to be poured for the footings and foundation of the building.

The gymnasium is being built on the playground across from the vocational agricultural building and not on the site of the old building.

Macon's 6,000-Plus Voters Ready For Tuesday Election

McKelvey Named Head Of Group

R. E. McKelvey, of Franklin, is the new president of the North Carolina Independent Telephone Association.

He was named to the post for a term of one year at a meeting of the association in Pine-



Mr. McKelvey

hurst Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of last week.

Mr. McKelvey is a vice-president of the Western Carolina Telephone Company, which serves this area.

The association he now heads has a membership of 53 telephone companies serving 750,000 customers in 350 towns.

Conley Promoted To Staff Sergeant

John Dudley Conley, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Conley, of Otto, recently was promoted to staff sergeant while serving with the air force in Puerto Rico. It has been learned here.

He enlisted in 1951 and has been stationed in Puerto Rico for the past two years.



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

Mrs. Emory And 'Louise'

MRS. EMORY, 95, And Reflections Of Parakeet 'Louise'

A caged green and yellow parakeet named "Louise" cocked her head to one side and appeared to be listening intently to what her owner was saying.

"I can't cut up like I used to," confessed Mrs. Elizabeth Blaine Emory with a carefree and somewhat flippant gesture as she sat in her arm chair.

And with that bit of understatement from 95-year-old Mrs. Emory, "Louise" began to catch the quick wit and personality of her new owner. The bird—a birthday gift to Mrs. Emory—settled down for some more history.

"I remember when my daddy came back from the war (Civil). Mother made him take off everything he was wearing while she cleaned them up," the white-haired old lady declared.

"Lice will just eat you up," she decided.

(Her father was James Madison Blaine, her mother Mrs. Matilda Carpenter Blaine).

Voters Will Ballot On Five Amendments In Tuesday Election

In addition to balloting on Democratic and Republican nominees for offices from U. S. senator down, voters in this and the other 99 North Carolina counties Tuesday will determine the fate of five proposed amendments to the state constitution.

The first one would authorize the general assembly to provide for recalling retired supreme court justices to fill temporary vacancies caused by illness or other emergencies.

The second would authorize the general assembly to create a board of paroles and confer upon it the authority to grant, revoke and terminate paroles which is now exercised by the governor.

The third would limit to one the number of state senators from any one county.

The fourth would reduce from four months to 30 days the time a voter must reside in a precinct before becoming eligible to vote.

The fifth would permit the governor, in filling a vacancy in the executive or judicial departments, to appoint a person to serve the balance of the unexpired term if that term is to expire on the first day of January after the next general election.

Under existing statutes retired supreme court justices become emergency superior court justices and may be called on to hold terms of superior court. There is no existing authority to recall them for duty on the supreme court.

The amendment creating a parole board would terminate the governor's power of granting, terminating and revoking paroles, after July 1, 1955.

Under present laws, it is permissible for one county to have two or more senators. The effect of the proposed amendment would be to prevent any one county from having more than one senator in the general assembly at any given time, whether the county alone composes a senatorial district or whether it is composed of two or more counties.

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Voters To Meet 47 Candidates On Election Ballots

When Macon's 6,000-plus voters turn out at the polls Tuesday they will find 47 candidates on the state and county-district ballots they will be handed.

Polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. for them to make their decisions.

Meanwhile, as the "off-year" election approaches, the local political scene still has an uncommon silence and a wariness appears to be standard equipment for both parties.

On the county-district ballot, three men are unopposed for their posts. They are Thad D. Bryson, Jr., 20th Judicial District solicitor, who experienced a stiff fight in the primary, and C. Jack Ragan and Richard H. Slagle, for

CANDIDATES PICTURED

A layout of all local candidates running in the general election Tuesday may be found on Page 6 of this issue.

county coroner and surveyor, respectively.

But the rest of the ballot is full.

In the state house of representatives race, Guy L. Houk, Franklin attorney, is carrying Democrat hopes against Republican H. S. Talley, Highlands businessman.

The incumbent Clerk of Superior Court, Miss Kate McGee, is seeking her second four-year term. She is opposed by Ray Swafford of the Republican ticket.

In the race for sheriff, Sheriff J. Harry Thomas is opposed in his bid for a second four-year term by Republican L. B. Welch, former Franklin businessman.

Incumbent Democrat Lake V. Shope is shooting for his third term as Register of Deeds. He is opposed by Clyde Drake, accountant.

W. E. (Gene) Baldwin, incumbent chairman of the Macon Board of County Commissioners, is opposed by Republican C. Bryant McClure, Otto farmer and former employee of the Nantahala Power and Light Company.

Wiley Brown, Franklin businessman, and incumbent John W. Roane, Upper Cartoogechaye farmer, are facing Republicans J. C. Crisp, Franklin photographer, and R. G. Ray, Franklin businessman, for the two county commissioner seats.

This year, the selection of the 33rd District state senator falls to Clay County. Democrat H. M. Moore is opposed by Ray Wright for the post.

Former Gov. W. Kerr Scott is opposed in the U. S. Senator race by Republican Paul C. West. State Treasurer Edwin Gill faces Republican Rex Morton and Charles F. Gold, commissioner of insurance, is opposed by Republican Fred G. Frick.

Congressman George A. Shuford, of Asheville, is fighting for his 12th district post against Republican Charles W. Cunningham.

Democrat M. V. Barnhill is opposed for the post of chief justice of the Supreme Court by Buford T. Henderson.

Sixteen Superior Court judges are unopposed on the ballot.

The Weather

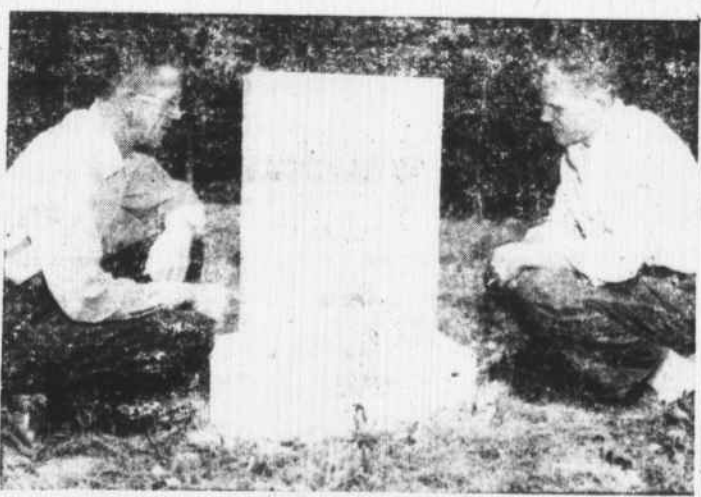
The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Mason S. Stiles, U. S. weather observer, and at the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory.

FRANKLIN		Temperatures		High Low Rain	
Wed. (Oct. 20)	68	22	...	...	...
Thursday	67	25	...	...	...
Friday	73	21	...	...	...
Saturday	77	24	...	...	...
Sunday	79	25	...	...	...
Monday	79	25	...	...	...
Tuesday	76	32	...	...	...

HIGHLANDS		Temperatures		High Low Rain	
Wed. (Oct. 20)	62	22	...	...	...
Thursday	62	26	...	...	...
Friday	62	25	...	...	...
Saturday	66	27	...	...	...
Sunday	67	27	...	...	...
Monday	66	29	...	...	...
Tuesday	68	33	...	...	...

COWEETA		Temperatures		High Low Rain	
Wed. (Oct. 20)	65	22	...	...	...
Thursday	67	26	...	...	...
Friday	72	23	...	...	...
Saturday	75	26	...	...	...
Sunday	77	26	...	...	...
Monday	76	28	...	...	...
Tuesday	74	34	...	...	...

HANDSHAKE TO OTTO FOR Marker For Graves Of Community Slaves



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

A STONE MARKING the graves of about 50 slaves has been erected in the Rush Cemetery by the Otto community. Bryant McClure, community president, and Lloyd S. Stamey, who helped at the cemetery, are shown studying the marker.

Otto should get the handshake for promoting one of the most satisfying projects in the two-year history of the Macon County Rural Community Development Program.

The citizens of this small community have paid tribute to their forefathers' slaves by erecting a stone for the unmarked slave graves in the Rush Cemetery.

It reads: "In memory of the faithful servants of this community. These unidentified slaves were buried between 1750 and 1900."

The granite stone, erected as a feature of the community's cemetery improvement program, marks about 50 graves, according to Bryant McClure, community president. The Rush Cemetery is the only one in the community in which slaves were buried.

Sarah "Aunt Sarah Doc" SEE NO. 3, PAGE 10