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CIRCULATION
Last Week
3924

The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

PRICE
10 Cents

70th Year — No. 25

Franklin, N. C., Thursday, June 23, 1955

Fourteen Pages



THIS WHITE HORSE and buggy started off Franklin's three-day Centennial celebration last Thursday morning. In the back "courtin" seat are Gov. and Mrs. Luther H. Hodges. Mayor W. C. Burrell is up front with Bill Fuller, the driver. The horse and buggy picked up the dignitaries at the west city limits and carried them to a reviewing stand at the courthouse.

Horse-Drawn Buggy From City Limits Opens Big Franklin Centennial Event

Superlatives Heaped High On 'Parade Of Progress'

Just about every superlative in the dictionary has been heaped on Friday afternoon's "Parade of Progress", which stands far and away as the most outstanding feature of the entire three-day celebration. For sheer imagination and ingenuity — and this is the consensus of visitors also — the "Parade of Progress" was unbeatable. Its homespun charm was intriguing, the untiring and conscientious efforts and hours

behind it were obvious, and the parade committee's success in avoiding a professional glaze brought forth imaginative floats and thousands of flattering comments from thousands of spectators. Possibly the most flattering of all came from a tourist, who was just passing through and decided to join in the fun: "I've seen even the 'Parade of Roses' in California . . . and for imagination and variety, what I've seen here today ranks along with it."

Chief Says Incidents 'Average'

"Just like an average weekend", is the way Police Chief C. D. Baird describes after effects of the three-day Centennial celebration. No accidents were reported. The chief said five arrests were made Saturday night, but he added, "that is about average" for any weekend. "I've never seen anything to beat the way people behaved. . . . I think they all were here just to have a good time," Chief Baird decided.

Building Dedication Hottest Item On Celebration Agenda

A blazing sun and summer temperatures turned Thursday afternoon's dedication of the town's new municipal building into the hottest item on the three-day Centennial agenda. While spectators took to the shade in the vicinity of the building site, Gov. Hodges and other dignitaries sitting on the reviewing stand toughed it out. The state's chief executive started out his stint on the platform bareheaded, but before long sought refuge under a large black hat handed him on his arrival in the county. Mrs. Hodges joined the hundreds in the shade in nearby yards. And because of the heat, this event failed to draw the crowd others did as the celebration picked up steam. Highlight of the dedication was a speech by Gov. Hodges. In his brief talk he placed special emphasis on North Carolina developing and marketing its own products. The governor gave an expanded version of this theme when addressing a joint meeting of Rotary Clubs of the area the night before in the Franklin cafeteria. He was introduced by Franklin's own Judge George B. Patton.

'Who, Me!' Says Contest Winner

"Who, me!" exclaimed Miss Mildred Childers. "Yes, you!" a spectator answered. And Gov. Hodges, ably assisted by his wife and Holland McSwain, crowned the breathless and near speechless lass as "Miss Centennial", while several thousand celebrants witnessed the opening of the Centennial last Thursday morning. Serving in the "Miss Centennial" court were Misses Shirley Cioer, Margaret Crawford, Joann Hopkins, Julia Moody, Freda Siler, set-up from the early days Kathleen Younce, Carolyn Bry when there were only 16 tax-son, and Betty Sue Huggins. Payers, the fine for selling As a prelude to the actual "ardent spirits" was a stiff \$5, contest to pick "Miss Centennial" and the tax levy was 2½ cents and her court from among 37 per \$100 evaluation. That year young ladies nominated by firms (1855) taxes brought in a total and individuals, the beauties were of \$65.22, he noted.

'Work Together' Governor Suggests In Speech Here

"Working together, you can make this a veritable paradise", Governor Luther H. Hodges said here last week. "I cannot think of a place in the world that has so much to offer." The governor was addressing a Rotary-Lions dinner meeting at the Franklin School cafeteria Wednesday night. The occasion was the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club, but approximately 130 civic leaders of Western North Carolina were present. The Franklin Lions Club met jointly with the Rotarians, and delegations were present from the Rotary clubs at Highlands, Bryson City, Sylva, and Andrews. "The one thing we need in North Carolina above all else is the energy and the ingenuity to make money out of the things that are around us", the North Carolina chief executive declared. "I'd rather have a hundred small plants where we do it all ourselves than one big indus-

try" from outside. Both are needed, of course, he said. The governor's comments were in line with his recently announced program to encourage the development of small, local industries to process the raw materials of the state. He cited North Carolina's low per capita income, the fact that many of the state's brightest and best trained young people go to other states to earn their livings, and then pointed out that 10 North Carolina counties — eight of them in the Piedmont — furnish more than 50 per cent of all the industries, of all the industrial payrolls in the state. Then he remarked: "We have got to take our raw materials and process them here, and make the profit out of it; and we have got to provide enough jobs and pay high enough wages to keep our young people at home, and to raise the per capita income." Speaking to the Rotarians — SEE NO. 2, PAGE 4

PRESS WINS EDIT AWARD

Newspaper Second In
Nation-Wide Contest;
Gets Herrick Plaque

The Franklin Press last week was listed as second place winner in a nation-wide editorial competition. Awards of the National Editorial Association, an organization of weekly, semi-weekly, and small daily newspapers of the United States, were announced June 16 at the organization's annual convention at Banff, Alberta, Canada. The Press, second in the Herrick editorial contest, was awarded a plaque "to recognize the best editorials published" during 1954, showing "outstanding and unusual efforts to explain . . . the every-day application of the principles of democracy."

In this particular contest, each newspaper was required to submit three editorials. The winning editorials from The Press were "Freedom Is Risky", published March 4, comments on a letter to The Press from the Rev. J. A. Vinson, of Rabun Gap, Ga.; "We Call It Freedom", March 18, excerpts from a talk made by the editor to the Ahoskie, N. C. Rotary Club; and "The Court Decision", May 27, the first of a series of three editorials on the Supreme Court's decision outlawing segregation in the public schools. More than 1400 newspapers in 45 states competed in the various contests sponsored by the N. E. A. North Carolina winners, in addition to The Press, were The Elkin Tribune, second place for "best news pictures", and The Tribune and the Rocky Mount Telegram, both given honorable mention for community service.

Fleet-Footed, But Not Enough

A fleet-footed escapee, who just wasn't fleet enough, is back in the Macon County Prison Camp after giving officers a 12-15 mile chase through the Burningtown section Monday. Ignoring two shots fired at him by guard Johnny McDowell, 37-year-old Joseph J. Ellis hit the heavy underbrush on the Burningtown Road about 9:30 and for the rest of the day waged a losing battle with men, bloodhounds, and walkie-talkies. He was recaptured about 5:30 in a wooded area near Fout's Store, according to Supt. John E. Cutshall. Ellis is serving 30 years for second degree murder. He was sentenced in Johnston County. The acting division superintendent, Capt. Dan Lyda, of Hendersonville, brought his bloodhound and walkie-talkies here for the search. But, according to Supt. Cutshall, Capt. Lyda out-tracked even the bloodhound and was responsible for the quick capture of Ellis. He's a real master at that kind of thing," the superintendent declared.

CONTESTS ARE HELD

Variety Of Events Mark Celebration; Winners Listed

A whole "passul" of homespun contests- tried and tested through the years-reeled off at intervals during the three-day celebration under the guiding hand of the Rev. Bryan Hatchett, head of the contests committee. They ranged from husband and hog calling (there's a difference? one lady asked) to the biggest feet, prettiest dress and hound dogs, and one to corn shucking and the best quilt top. All drew thousands of spectators. Staged from a reviewing stand on the west side of the courthouse, the variety of events were for young and old. Special Centennial certificates printed on parchment were awarded the winners. Probably the most competitive was the churning contest. In this event, the preacherly intent of the Rev. W. N. Cook—a cold cigar clutched tightly between his teeth —put magic into his rhythmic dapper. The 77-year-old retired Baptist minister produced butter in a matter of minutes to beat four others "up and downing dappers" — Mrs. Cook (who gave her age as 21-plus), George San- SEE NO. 4, PAGE 4

"Gaddap!" demanded Bill Fuller of the white horse. The animal strained, the creaking wheels of the buggy turned, the men in the buggy laughed, and the lone lady straightened her bonnet. This was just last Thursday morning at the city limits near Chapel School, but it was the unassuming beginning of the biggest and most successful shindig in Franklin's history. It was the opening of Franklin's homespun three-day 100th birthday celebration. Uptown, thousands were on hand to help lick the icing off the progressive little mountain town's birthday cake. The white horse pulled the buggy toward town. "This seat's for courting," Gov. Luther H. Hodges laughed. Mrs. Hodges smiled and straightened her bonnet again. In the front seat, Mayor W. C. Burrell chuckled under his heavy beard. "Gaddap!" said Bill Fuller. The governor's sleek black limosene, incongruous in this setting of yesteryear, purred at a respectful distance behind the buggy. On the east side of town, near the Little Tennessee River bridge, convertibles loaded with "Miss Centennial" contestants waited for the word to flash that the governor and his lady had reached the reviewing stand so the parade could start. And the throng uptown peered for sight of either.

REVIVAL WILL OPEN

Bishop Henry, Guest
Minister For Annual
Event In Franklin

The annual county-wide series of evangelistic services at the Friendship Tabernacle will start Monday night, with the Rt. Rev. M. George Henry, bishop of the Episcopal diocese of Western North Carolina, as the guest speaker. Services will be held each evening at 7:30, Monday through Saturday. It will be the second time Bishop Henry, of Asheville, has preached at these summer ser-

ASKED TO MEET
All persons planning to sing in the joint choir for the evangelistic series are requested to meet Sunday at 2 p. m. at the Franklin Methodist Church for rehearsal.

The denominations here rotate in providing the speaker, and Bishop Henry preached the series of sermons the last time it was the turn of the Episcopalians. Music will be provided by a



Bishop Henry

combined choir, under the direction of the Rev. David Barkley, pastor of the Macon Methodist Circuit. Members of choirs from churches throughout the county are invited to help with the singing. Committee chairman, arranging for the tabernacle meetings are Mr. Barkley, music; Norman Blaine, entertainment; Elbert Angel, building and grounds; the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, publicity; Henry W. Cabe, finance; the Rev. M. W. Chapman, program; Horace Nolen, ushers; and the Rev. William Shields, special arrangements. Mr. Morsan announced this week that Bishop Henry will preach at St. Agnes Episcopal Church Sunday evening at 7:30.

Free Barbecue Dinner Served To Over 3,000

More than 3,000 persons were served free plates of barbecue Saturday afternoon at Franklin High School, compliments of the Centennial committee. In fact, there was food left, according to the committee in charge. Members of the Franklin Home Demonstration Club, under the supervision of Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill, county home agent, served the meal. The barbecue committee was composed of Bill Horsley, Ed Coates, Oscar Ledford, Bill Bryant, Wiley Brown, Woodrow Dowdle, and Larry Welch.

'Governor's Day'
This was "Governor's Day" and the chief executive and his wife "did it up brown". After leaving the buggy, they climbed to their seats on the reviewing stand on the west side of courthouse while the "Miss Centennial" parade unfolded. Gov. Hodges crowned and kissed the winner, Miss Mildred Childers, while Mrs. Hodges helped secure her ribbon. "You mean I really have time to eat lunch," the governor said in mock disbelief, following the opening feature, about noon. At 1 o'clock, he and a handful of dignitaries were seated on the reviewing stand at the site of the new municipal building. One of the governor's official chores here was the dedication of the \$51,000 structure. A sweltering sun cut attendance at the dedication and shortened considerably the speech Gov. Hodges had prepared. Mrs. Hodges joined spectators in the shade in a nearby yard. The governor found welcome relief in a black wide-brimmed hat and sun glasses. A reception for the chief executive and his wife followed in late afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Higdon.

IS IN THE BLACK
Financially, the Centennial is in the black, it has been announced. Sale of badges and other souvenir items financed all phases of the celebration, including the free barbecue Saturday afternoon. The amount cleared has not been totaled as yet, according to C. O. Ramsey, treasurer. Proceeds are earmarked for the Macon County Band under the incorporation of the Centennial. They left soon after to keep another appointment the governor had in another county.

'Parade Day' Held
Friday was "Parade Day" and Franklin staggered, but held up nobly, under the pressure of an estimated 15,000 spectators. The entire downtown area was blocked off to accommodate the heavy influx and to give

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The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Marvin Sides, U. S. weather observer, in Highlands by Louis N. Hall and W. C. Newton, TVA observer, and at the Coalesta Hydrologic Laboratory.

| FRANKLIN | | Temperatures | |
|---------------|----|--------------|------|
| | | High | Low |
| Wed., June 15 | 77 | 42 | |
| Thursday | 81 | 45 | |
| Friday | 81 | 47 | |
| Saturday | 76 | 47 | |
| Sunday | 79 | 57 | .06 |
| Monday | 86 | 59 | .13 |
| Tuesday | 84 | 59 | .04 |



THESE SPRITELY 'youngsters', Mrs. Lee Crawford and Ernest Rankin, reigned Saturday night as "King and Queen of Centennial", after a tally in penny-a-vote contest between 19 elderly couples. The monarchs both are 90. During a special dance in their honor (they sat in the center of the dance ring), the king remarked, "I feel like a gold fish in a bowl!"