



SIDEWALKS FOR THE NEW Franklin High gymnasium sent the Macon Board of Education outside after its business meeting Monday morning. The board is shown talking over the project with contractor Wiley Clark (kneeling)—(L to R) Chairman Erwin Patton, Supt. Holland McSwain, George Gibson, and C. C. Sutton.

Board Plans Buildings For Summer

The Macon Board of Education plans to give the go-ahead on construction of lunchrooms at Cowee and Otto and two classrooms at Cullasaja just as soon as schools close this spring.

In session Monday morning, the three-member board reported that architect Lindsey Guder is now revising plans for the buildings to cut construction costs.

Original estimates for the lunchrooms ran from \$35-\$40,000. Supt. Holland McSwain said the ordered revisions are expected to chop the estimates to \$25-\$30,000.

As a single project, the two classrooms at Cullasaja will cost \$15-\$20,000, he said.

Macon's estimated \$152,000 allocation from the state bond program will be used to finance construction, the superintendent added.

The architect is expected to have the revised plans ready within the next few weeks, Mr. McSwain said, and if they meet with the approval of the board, bids for construction will be asked.

Mrs. Crawford Elected O. E. S. Worthy Matron

Mrs. Katherine Crawford is the new worthy matron and her husband, W. G. Crawford, the worthy patron of Nequassa Chapter 43, Order of the Eastern Star.

Election of '56 officers featured a meeting of the chapter last Thursday night. Mrs. Catherine Henry is the out-going matron.

At the chapter's regular meeting next Thursday night (15th) at the Masonic Temple, the new leaders are to be installed by Mrs. Hilda S. Halliburton, of Canton, worthy grand matron. Set to begin at 8 o'clock, this will be an open meeting for friends and relatives of O. E. S. members.

Other new officers include Mrs. Emma Jane Phillips, associate matron; W. L. Harper, associate patron; Mrs. Nobia G. Murray, secretary; Mrs. Alice C. Ray, treasurer; Mrs. Eula D. Carpenter, conductress; Mrs. Ruby M. Harper, associate conductress; Miss Lattie Kelly, marshal; Mrs. Louise C. Darnell, organist; Mrs. Lucille H. Phillips, Adah; Mrs. Evelyn S. West, Ruth; Mrs. Merle P. Dryman, Esther; Mrs. Roberta S. Hall, Martha; Mrs. Jessie D. Horsley, Electa; Mrs. Thelma N. Harmon, warder; and James L. Hauser, sentinel.

New Age-Group For Vaccine Is Announced

Dr. Guy V. Gooding announced this week that Salk anti-polio vaccine will be available for all school children through the age of 15 on April 5.

On this date, the district health officer said the county health department plans to start vaccinating between 600 and 700 students.

Previously, the vaccine has been available only for first and second graders.

As a matter of policy, Dr. Gooding said parents will be asked to give signed permission for the health department to administer the vaccine. Special blanks will be made available.

Vaccine also will be available through private physicians, Dr. Gooding added.

Miss Moody Appointed Vice-President Of College Student Body

Miss Julia Moody, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Truman Moody, of Franklin, has been appointed vice-president of the student body of Western Carolina College, Cullowhee.

She was appointed by the college senate to fill the vacancy left when the former vice-president was found to be ineligible.

Miss Moody is also chairman of the standards committee and will fill both offices through the spring quarter. She is a junior, an honor student, and on the staff of the school paper.

OTTO FARMER GETS G. O. P. CHAIRMANSHIP

McClure Elected Head Of Party Here; Reece Is New Vice-Chairman

Macon Republicans, in convention Saturday at the courthouse, elected Bryant McClure, Otto farmer, chairman of the county party organization.

He succeeds George W. Reece, of Franklin, who has held the post for 10 years. Mr. Reece was elected vice-chairman.

The office of secretary-treasurer went to Ray Swafford, of Franklin.

E. J. Carpenter served as temporary chairman of the convention.



Mr. McClure

tion, which drew about 75 persons.

Two Franklin men, J. C. Crisp and A. R. Higdon, were named state committeemen. Elmo Rogers and L. B. Welch are alternates.

The following were named as precinct chairmen: W. P. Bryant, Franklin; Garland Shepherd, Millshoal; Bill Higdon, Ellijay; Ernest Dills, Sugarfork; Harvey Talley, Highlands; Frank Green, Flats; Ralph Henson, Smithbridge; P. T. Kell, Cartoogechay; Dallas Roland, Nantahala No. 1; John Wishon, Nantahala No. 2; Pink Martin, Burningtown; and Ralph Bradley, Cowee.

Governor Won't Be Here [Long Pause]

Board Finds Water Topic

Water kept coming before the Franklin Board of Aldermen in a variety of ways Tuesday night.

(1) Muddy Water — Because of complaints of rusty water, an analysis of water from the town's No. 5 well (near the tabernacle) was obtained. The results were read to the board by Town Clerk C. O. Ramsey. In brief, the report showed the water to have a heavy concentration of iron bacteria, which has been causing the dirty water condition. It was suggested that the well be cleaned and sterilized and an iron stabilizer be used to kill the iron bacteria. Water Supt. Herman Childers reported he already has sterilized the well and started treatment. He said he has noted improvement.

(2) Pool Water — A request for water to fill the pool at the Franklin Lodge and Golf Course was approved by the board, on condition that water is available. In the event of a water shortage this summer, other customers would be served before the pool.

(3) Water Revenues — A committee composed of J. L. West, Jr., J. C. Jacobs, and Frank Martin was appointed by Mayor W. C. Burrell to prepare a study on the town's water revenue situation for presentation at the next meeting.

(4) Rain Water — It poured at intervals during the meeting. A committee made up of Mr. Martin, Sam Gibson, and Prelo Dryman was appointed to study bids and select the best for furniture for the town conference room.

IOTLA SETS MEETING

A meeting of the Iotla Rural Community Development Organization is set for Monday at 7:30 p. m. at the Iotla School. It has been announced.

Swimming Pool At Lodge Being Opened For Public

A public swimming pool for residents and visitors found new hope this week with an announcement by Frank B. Duncan and T. W. Angel, Jr., of plans to reopen the old pool at the Franklin Lodge and Golf Course.

Work already is under way and the lodge owners plan to have the pool ready for use by May 1.

Mr. Duncan said the pool will be remodeled with a marbled plaster finish and trimmed in tile. An approved filtering system will be installed, along with new water lines to the pool and to the lodge and cabins.

Plans also call for renovating

the locker rooms, building a playground for children, and putting the tennis courts back in shape, he said.

Mr. Duncan said the overall program will cost about \$20,000.

Contract for the pool work has been awarded Pool Construction Company, of Asheville.

Family memberships and season tickets, in addition to daily admissions, will be announced later.

Up until last year, the pool was operated for three summers by the Franklin Jaycees. Maintenance costs forced the organization to drop it as a project.

RAY'S RETIREMENT — Has Some 'Fixing Up' To Do

John B. Ray pitched a shovel full of dirt into the driveway and surveyed his progress with the efficient eye of an engineer.

"Thought you were supposed to be retired," yelled the Press reporter, pulling his car into the drive.

"He's on my payroll now," answered his daughter, Mrs. Ann (John "Speck") Murray. "Haven't seen a pay check yet," observed the man with the shovel.

Been A Week

It's been a week now since Mr. Ray officially severed association with the Aluminum Corporation of America through retirement. Behind him stand some 38 years' service with the corporation, more than 26 of them with Nantahala Power and Light Company.

Ahead of him are "fixing up around the house" (the likes working outdoors), some visiting with relatives, and a special sightseeing trip to Florida. "And he still has to work through the list I have pre-



Mr. Ray

pared for him," his daughter reminded.

On Ground Floor After attending Oklahoma A and M, Mr. Ray joined Alcoa as

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Who, What, When, Where, And Why Of Mixup Is Explained

Governor Luther H. Hodges will not speak in Franklin tomorrow (Friday).

And it's not that Governor Hodges had to cancel his engagement here—he didn't have one!

It seems everybody knew the Governor was coming — except the Governor.

Just how and why the misunderstanding occurred nobody seems to know. Here, though, as well as it can be pieced together, is the sequence of events that had led up to the point of making arrangements for the Governor's entertainment while here, the choice of a local leader to introduce him to the throng at the courthouse Friday morning, etc.

In Fayetteville, 10 days ago, The Press' news editor, J. P. Brady, heard that Governor Hodges was going to deliver a series of speeches in Western North Carolina this spring.

Will he come to Franklin? was the first question that occurred to the newspaperman.

On his return to Franklin, he started making inquiries.

He struck pay dirt in Sam Gibson, president of the county Young Democrats Club. Mr. Gibson had been in Raleigh over the week-end for the Jefferson-Jackson dinner. He said the governor told him he would visit here on the 9th.

To make it official, Frank I. Murray was called. He confirmed it as chairman of the county Democratic executive committee.

"He'll speak here the 9th ... at 10 o'clock."

On the basis of all this, The Press last week published the story, illustrating it with the Governor's photograph.

This week, efforts to obtain more details were unavailing.

Mr. Gibson repeated that he understood from the Governor that he was coming to Franklin. But he knew no details. Mr. Murray knew nothing else. And questions addressed to other leaders here drew a blank.

A sixth newspaper sense, working subconsciously a little like conscience, suggested all was not well; there was too little known about anything that important; something was wrong.

So Tuesday afternoon the newspaper telephoned Governor Hodges.

The newsmen making the call opened the conversation by telling the Governor people here were pleased he was coming to Franklin.

There was a perceptible pause at the other end of the line. Then:

"Well, I hope I can get to SEE NO. 5, PAGE 8

GOES TO RALEIGH

Clyde N. West left yesterday (Wednesday) for Raleigh, where he will attend a meeting today for the State Democratic Executive Committee. Mr. West has been a member of the committee for a number of years.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, U. S. weather observer; in Highlands by Taylor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, TVA observer; and at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory.

FRANKLIN			
Temperatures			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Feb 29	51	29	—
Thursday	58	17	—
Friday	61	39	.46
Saturday	53	33	.28
Sunday	66	30	—
Monday	72	22	—
Tuesday	75	41	.03

HIGHLANDS			
Temperatures			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Feb 29	40	18	—
Thursday	46	17	—
Friday	49	30	.36
Saturday	43	30	—
Sunday	52	27	.33
Monday	58	26	—
Tuesday	62	44	trace

COWETA			
Temperatures			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Feb 29	52	29	—
Thursday	58	18	.81
Friday	61	38	.45
Saturday	57	33	—
Sunday	65	29	—
Monday	70	24	.09
Tuesday	70	40	.04

Franklin And Clyde Erwin To Clash Tomorrow Night

Franklin High's spanking new gymnasium is expected to be packed to capacity tomorrow (Friday) night when teams from Clyde Erwin High School in Buncombe County come over the Balsams to help the local lads and lassies mark the debut of W. N. C.'s latest sports palace.

This will be Franklin's first home basketball game in two seasons. Since the old gymnasium burned in March, 1953, the Panthers and Pantherettes have been practicing outdoors and playing scheduled games on opponents' courts.

Three Games Set For basketball-starved fans, three games are on tap tomorrow night. At 6:30, the Jaycee boys' teams will play; at 7:30, the varsity girls; and at 8:30, the varsity boys.

A former Franklin principal, Ralph L. Smith, is principal of the Buncombe school.

With the proceeds of the game already spent, two men have stepped forward and offered to officiate free at the ball game. They are "Dutch" Kinley, of Bryson City, and R. A. (Art) Byrd, former coach and now principal at Union School.

To Play Murphy Friday week (16th), the new gymnasium will again throw open its doors to fans for a clash between Franklin and Murphy. The girls will play at 7:30 and the boys at 8:30, according to Coach Howard Barnwell.

Coach Barnwell said he is hoping to schedule still another game later in the month, but has nothing definite to announce this week.

Installing Seats Meanwhile, as the belated first game of the now defunct '55-56 season approaches, the gymnasium echoes a flurry of activity. The last of the tile work is going in the locker rooms. With the assistance of students, about 1,800 bleacher seats are being installed for the opening night crowd.

Already Spent

Gate receipts from Franklin High's upcoming basketball games tomorrow (Friday) night and on the 16th are already spent, according to Principal Harry C. Corbin.

They'll be channeled equally to pay for the sidewalks around the new gymnasium and to cut the \$2,900 debt of the school athletic association.

School officials estimate that sidewalk construction, which is now under way, is going to cost \$1,350. Contractor Wiley Clark is pushing the job to completion.

Mr. Corbin said it is his understanding that the money being advanced by the school for the sidewalks is to be repaid by the county next year. There are no funds available in this year's school budget to pay for the walks, according to Supt. Holland McSwain.

Franklin High Footballers Being Honored Here Tonight

About 50 Franklin High Panthers and cheerleaders will be feted tonight (Thursday) by the Rotary Club.

Guest speaker for the annual football banquet is Dr. Quinn Constantz, associate professor of health and physical education at Western Carolina College, Cullowhee.

SHOPE GETS PRESIDENCY

Elected To Head Local N. C. E. A.; Group Will Help Out Students

Z. Weaver Shope, principal of Cullasaja School, is the new president of the Macon unit of the N. C. Education Association.

He succeeds Mrs. Dora Lee Carpenter.

The county unit elected '56 officers in session Monday afternoon in the high school cafeteria. Others are W. G. Crawford, vice-president, and Mrs. Joyce J. Cagle, secretary-treasurer.

Committee reports also featured the program. The organization voted to assist the Future Teachers Club of Franklin High in sending members to the N. C. E. A. convention in Asheville later this month.

A professional fee was dis-

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ZONES FOR FRANKLIN'S development program were outlined at a meeting Friday night. Working on the zoning were (seated) Holland McSwain and Mrs. Prelo Dryman; (standing—L to R) Mrs. E. S. Purdom, Verlon Swafford, chamber of commerce president, Mrs. A. R. Higdon, and Bob S. Sloan. A map of the zones may be seen on Page 5 of this issue.

Late News and Briefs

CONCERT BAND READY

The Franklin High School Concert Band is now ready to present programs at civic clubs, P. T. A. meetings, and for other non-profit organizations. T. A. Orr, band director, announced this week.

The band will be glad to play SEE NO. 1, PAGE 8