

P. T. A. LEARNS SCHOOL NEEDS

Members Tour Buildings; Supt. Houk Speaks; Teachers Welcomed

"The Needs of Our School" was announced as the subject for the year of the Franklin Parent-Teachers Association at their first meeting of the Fall held at the high school last Monday afternoon, by Mrs. R. S. Jones, chairman of the program committee. Other members of the committee are Mrs. Ben W. Woodruff and Mrs. Allan Brooks.

The first feature of the program was a tour of the school building by parents and teachers, with a view of getting first hand knowledge of conditions and needs of the school and the pupils.

This tour revealed that there was insufficient lighting in many of the rooms, one reason being given that the janitor did not have time to wash the windows; there was discovered to be a serious shortage of seats, one room having 65 pupils and seats for approximately 40 was reported by one member, where books were piled in the window sills and on the floor. The condition of the boys' toilets was found to be particularly bad. Twenty children occupied one small room with two doors and no windows. These were recognized as remedial defects.

On the bright side, many rooms showed loving care and interest on part of pupils and teachers, being attractive and well kept, and the fresh paint last Spring had improved the interior of auditorium and rooms.

Following a discussion, Mrs. John Wasilik, president, appointed the following committees: Mrs. Allan Brooks, chairman of a committee to see the Nantahala Power and Light company in regard to improving the lighting of some of the rooms and supplying units where necessary; Mrs. Emory Hunnicutt, chairman, to remedy sanitary conditions, and Mrs. Gus Leach, Mrs. R. S. Jones, and Mrs. Katherine Porter Matthews to see the Board of Education to find ways and means to supply seats and other equipment necessary.

W. H. Finley introduced the new teachers to the meeting. It was decided to give a party to the room having the highest percentage of attendance of parents during the year. Mrs. Wasilik urged mothers to interest fathers in the P. T. A. program for improvement of the schools.

Speaking on the appointed subject, Superintendent Guy Houk outlined the financial setup of the school system, explaining that the state's appropriation of \$120,000 for Macon county schools went to teachers' salaries and other operating expenses and that the county had to supply school buildings, repairs, heat, lights, equipment and insurance. He stated that the county's contribution was \$6,000, in round numbers, last year, part of this from revenue, part from the poll tax and court fines. The expense per pupil per year, on the basis of last year's enrollment of 4,004 pupils is about \$30, he said.

Referring to the Franklin school buildings at length, he stated that they had not yet been fully paid for and saw little prospect of doing anything to improve the conditions. Some of the schools in the county, however, he said would compare with these buildings as "a shanty with one of your ten thousand dollar homes; some are dark and always have been; seven grades have been taught by one teacher; there are old stoves, few or no library books, and many are gloomy and dismal."

On the bright side the superintendent noted the WPA consolidated schools at Ott and West's Mill; the vocational building, and the agricultural program supported by joint federal, state and county funds under E. J. Whitmire; also the painting and repairs done to the high school building last spring.

Stating that the county tax rate was \$1.30, with no chance of increasing it and that valuations are lower now on property than in 1927, Mr. Houk saw no way of remedying present conditions other than to "get \$1.10 worth for every dollar you spend."

Mrs. Gordon Moore reported for the Franklin Girl Scout troop, of which the P. T. A. is a sponsor, an all-day training school for leaders at Camp Lumpkin on Saturday, November 1.

Delightful refreshments were served by the hostesses of the afternoon, Mrs. Emory Hunnicutt, Mrs. L. H. Page and Mrs. T. W. Angel, Jr.

Food Will Win the War And Write The Peace

If every farmer will grow his own food and feed in 1941, he will not have to buy as much, and more will be available to strengthen America's defense forces, and the Armies of our friends across the sea.

Prepare to do your part in the "Food for Freedom" campaign. Ask your county agent how you can help, and be ready to pledge your support when your AAA committeeman comes to call.

Mrs. Gaines

To Leave For New Work In Alabama

Mrs. R. R. Gaines, Macon county public health nurse, has resigned her work here to accept a position with the state health department as staff nurse in Selma, Ala. She will begin her new work November 1.

Mrs. Gaines, who came to Franklin four and a half years ago as Miss Josephine Dixon, has done outstanding work in her field. She has carried on a progressive health program of visiting and clinics, covering even the most inaccessible sections of the county. The clinics and home visiting have included a definite schedule for remedial and preventive measures against contagious diseases, besides prenatal, maternal and infant hygiene. Mothers and babies have been cared for, school hygiene taught, clinics conducted for children of pre-school and school age, tubercular clinics, toxoid-clinics for smallpox, diphtheria and whooping cough, venereal disease clinics and others.

Mrs. Gaines has endeared herself not only to many friends in Franklin but to thousands throughout the county who regret her departure. Her charming personality and devoted service will be missed in the many homes where she has carried help and comfort to the sick and those needing her ministrations as nurse. In this service, she has gone far beyond the required demands of her position as public health nurse, giving of her time and strength wherever she was needed. It is safe to say that health conditions in Macon County are better and knowledge of hygienic methods for disease prevention have been raised to a higher standard through the efficient work carried on by Mrs. Gaines. Her many friends and admirers wish her continued success in her new field.

Oak Grove Dedication Sunday, October 26

Dedication of the Baptist church of Etna, of which Rev. Robert Williams is pastor, will be held October 26. The program follows:

- 9:00—Sunday school.
- 9:45—Welcome, by the pastor.
- 10:00—History of the Church, by Rev. D. C. McCoy and W. L. Bradley.
- 10:30—The Church's Value to the Community, by Rev. W. E. Conner of Knoxville, Tenn.
- 11:00—Dedication Sermon, by Rev. Deitz of Beta.
- 11:45—Does the Church Belong to the People or the People to the Church, by Rev. N. E. Holden.
- 12:15—Dinner.
- 1:15—An address on the Church, by Rev. C. F. Rogers of the Franklin Baptist church.
- 1:45—The Church Member's Duty in this Changing Age, by Rev. G. A. Cloer.
- 2:15—The Relation Between the Church and its Different Organizations, by Rev. Mose Woodard of Hazelwood.
- 3:00—Adjourn.

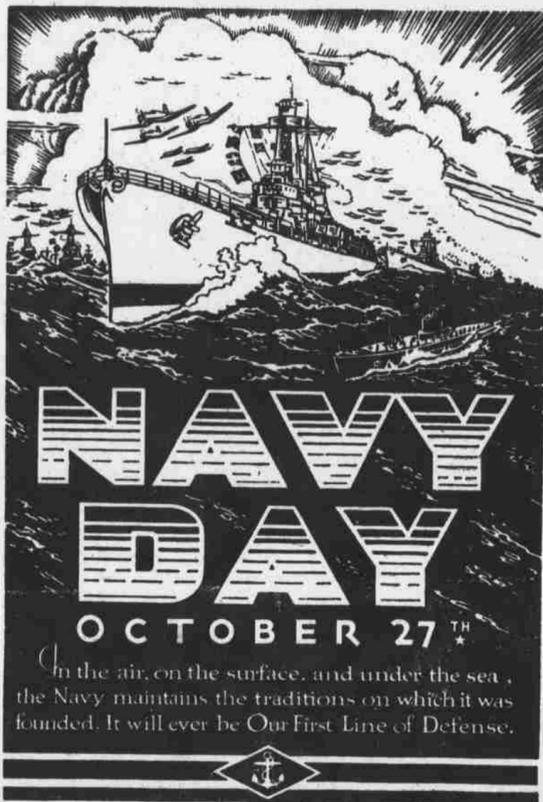
Defense Bond Clarifies Bldg. Materials Priorities

With a view toward clarifying the building situation the Supply Priorities and Allocation Board released a statement outlining the "haves" and "have nots" of the building situation.

The following statement is intended to clarify many misunderstandings in regard to the priority of building materials: There is no specific ban on residential construction as such, there is no ban on private construction in farm and rural areas. There is no ban on rehabilitation and repair activities.

Perhaps the most serious shortage in regard to the building situation is that of obtaining skilled workmen.

Mrs. Nancy Carden, Mrs. Elsie Hurst and Trejell Hurst and his small daughter, Irene, of Leatherman, took a trip to Arlarka in Swain county.



Air Raids And Convoys Encountered By Local Boy On Trip Round The World

First Uncensored Letter Home Gives Vivid Description Of Trip

A trip around the world on an American freighter carrying lend-lease materials to the British forces is no dull experience, as related by a former Franklin boy, Richard R. Johnson, in a recent letter home.

Postmarked from Honolulu, Hawaii, October 15, 9 a. m., and sent air mail, this letter was received three days later, in the morning mail reaching Franklin October 18.

Some of the experiences related in this letter are published here that may be of interest to our readers at this time.

Leaving New York on May 31, the route of the Bienville was not disclosed until she left Singapore for Hawaii. This letter was written on the voyage between this fortified English port of the Malay Peninsula and the U. S. Territory of Hawaii. The continent of Africa was skirted and an exciting two weeks spent in the Red Sea and in the harbor of a Suez port; followed by visits to ports of India for valuable cargo. Several days spent at Singapore, Straits Settlements, were described in a previous letter.

Now that I can write unrestrained by any censorship, I can relate some of the highlights of the past four and half months—"Now it can be told."

On leaving New York on May 31 we were loaded down with the materials of war. Below decks were filled with huge crates containing army trucks (made especially for desert travel), tanks, field pieces, automatic rifles and other mobile fighting equipment; and cases of evaporated milk, sacks of flour, and even some phonograph records. On deck we had more box crates containing more trucks (lorries—that's what they are called by the British), and airplanes—10 of them.

At sunset, as we backed up cautiously away from pier 10, Staten Island, slipping between many barges and several other ships, all loaded with the same kind of cargo as we had, I think all of the crew felt that they were starting on a voyage that would bring them many experiences they had never bumped into before.

After backing out of the slip, and just as we were turning around in the narrows to head her out to sea, we saw a huge fire up the harbor ways, on the Jersey side. Next day we learned from a report over the radio that this was a 15 million dollar blaze.

Through The Caribbean The trip down the coast, through the Mona passage into the Caribbean to Port of Spain, Trinidad, was uneventful. However, we were

reminded of Uncle Sam's ever-watchfulness in these troubled times. A day out from Mona passage, (between Puerto Rica and Dominican Republic), a navy patrol plane (a Consolidated PBY) swooped down low overhead to identify us—we could even see the pilots up forward in the plane. A few days later we passed the "Dragon's Mouth"—so named by Columbus on his last voyage to the New World—on into the bay on which lies Port of Spain. Before we dropped the hook, the Royal Navy came alongside in a motor launch, on which was mounted a small, but formidable looking gun. They proceeded to go through the regular routine of inspection of ship's papers, etc., just as I had seen them do here and in other British Colonial ports that we visited. If we approached a port before daylight we had to signal our identification to the shore station or patrol boat with the blinker.

"Bound For Capetown" We left Trinidad early in the morning of the ninth of June. That night we heard the report of the sinking of the Robin Moor, by Lowell Thomas. When he said, "this is the second time within a month that a ship, bound for Capetown, has been reported sunk," it sounded very ominous to all of us who were "bound for Capetown."

On July 2 we arrived in Capetown after a long and tedious passage against strong, head prevailing winds, and current. I found Capetown a delightful city and more like the American cities than any of the other places we visited. Here, however, there were no facilities immediately available for refueling the ship. Consequently we had to stay anchored out in the stream until the following morning before we could go into the inner harbor, inside the breakwater, to re-fuel. Capetown, at that time, was truly a bottleneck for ships. Some of them had been lying there for days waiting on fuel. The harbor was full of them, an entire troop ship convoy too, including several very large liners. The streets were full of soldiers—all kinds. There were Aussies, New Zealanders, Indians, Malaysians, Sudanese, South Africans, and goodness knows what else. Capetown is very hospitable to men of all services, including the "merchant navy" and the American merchant marine. There are many places of entertainment provided for them by various organizations, where they can get entertainment free and refreshments at the very lowest prices.

We Enter The Red Sea After 17 days we came to Aden, on the Gulf of Aden, at the entrance to the Red Sea. As I went off watch at 4 a. m., we were retracing our wake at slow speed in order not to enter the port before

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Achievement Day Observed By Demonstration Clubs

NOTICE

The Junior Class of the Franklin High School will present their Annual Halloween Carnival in the High School Auditorium on Saturday, November 1, from 7:30 p. m. until 11 o'clock. Admission price will be 10c and tickets may be secured from members of the class. Everyone is invited. Many new ideas will be presented.

Two First Prizes Won At State Fair By Macon Entries

Two first prizes and several other awards were won by the six calves exhibited at the North Carolina state fair last week in Raleigh by Macon county boys. The two first place awards were won by Logan Allen exhibiting "Chunky Boy," who won first place in the heavyweight class and Bill Gregory whose calf, "Will," won first place in the lightweight class and was crowned Reserve Champion of the FFA show. Logan Allen also received first place for showmanship in exhibiting his calf.

At the sale held following the stock show the boys were able to sell their calves for a total income of \$1003.35 and each one of Macon's Future Farmers was able to show a nice profit for the year's work. The profit made by each boy is listed below:

Max Parrish, whose calf "Raffe" won fifth place in the heavy weight class, made a profit of \$65.33; "Chunky Boy" owned by Logan Allen brought 17½¢ per pound and made a profit of \$92.26 for his owner; "Will", owned by Bill Gregory was sold at 17½¢ a pound making a profit of \$85.43; Charles Browning was able to show a profit of \$24.78; \$43.00 was the amount made by George Moore on his calf "Captain"; and Paul Taylor with a fourth place winner in the middle weight class made a profit of \$48.77.

John Priest Bradley Dies At Georgia Home

News has been received here of the death of John Priest Bradley, of Tignall, Ga., a former Macon county resident, father of J. Roane Bradley of Franklin.

Mr. Bradley was born and reared in the Otto community. He was the son of the late John H. and Flora Hopper Bradley. He has made his home in Tignall for several years.

The funeral services were held at the Malloryville Baptist church with the Rev. J. B. Landrum, of Tignall, officiating.

Surviving are the widow, the former Miss Mary Virginia Hopper, also of Macon county; two daughters, Mrs. James Brown, of Cornelia, Ga., and Mrs. Rudolph Smith, of Washington, Ga.; four sons, J. Roane, of Franklin, Jim of Elberton, Ga., Bill, of Tignall, and Grady Bradley of Cornelia, Ga.; three sisters, Mrs. E. E. Conley and Mrs. William Seagle, of Otto, and Mrs. Marvin Davidson, of Sedro Wooley, Wash., and two brothers, Reese and Robert Bradley, of Burlington, Wash.

Old Sol Brings Encore Performance By All-Stars

In keeping with this warm summer weather we continue to have, the Franklin "All-Stars" have arranged a double header base ball game for this coming Sunday afternoon. The All-Stars will play "Gene's Vetrans" from Asheville, this team will be remembered by the local fans as the old Walkins Corner club. The second game will be between the colored boys of Franklin and Bryson City.

The first game will start at 2 p. m.

Air Raid Organization To Become Permanent

Although as yet no definite activity has taken place in this vicinity and officials have not received instructions from military headquarters in Charlotte to man the observation posts, C. Tom Bryson, organizer of the county air warning system, stated that we are ready to man our posts on 24 hours notice.

Mr. Bryson further stated that while there might not be any activity in this area at this time the organization would remain ready for service at any future date if called upon.

"Food For Defense" And Home Improvement Reports Made

Women from all the 14 Macon county Home Demonstration clubs and visitors crowded the Agricultural building last Saturday in attendance upon the all-day Achievement Day program.

Visitors included Miss Margaret Martin, home agent, Jackson county; Mrs. Alline R. King, home agent, Cherokee county; and Mrs. Gorda C. Boney, home agent, Ashe county.

Mrs. J. S. Gray, president of the county council, presided. Rev. Rufus Morgan led the devotional. Special music by Rev. Philip Greene, Dr. J. L. Stokes, Rev. Hubert Wardlaw, and Ben Woodruff was enjoyed.

Miss Anna C. Rowe, western district agent, welcomed the club members and offered congratulations over the attendance.

The address for the day was given by Miss Pauline Gordon, home management and house furnishings specialist of State college. Her subject was "Woman's Part in National Defense." In addition to caring for the physical needs of the family, women must learn to manage better in order to look out for the mental, spiritual, and moral needs of the family she said.

Many guests from Franklin were included in the hospitality of a delicious luncheon served by the clubs in honor of the out-of-town guests.

An afternoon program was given by 4-H club members which included a dress revue, in which 17 girls participated.

A team demonstration was given by Ruth Bryson of the West's Mill 4-H Club and Doris Dalrymple of Cartoogechaye. These girls demonstrated an emergency meal to be prepared from canned foods.

Club Reports Reports were given from the various clubs on the year's work. The major project for 1941 was "Home Improvement Within and Without".

These reports were nothing short of amazing in their scope and size of accomplishments, which fulfilled the purpose of the season's "Food For Defense" program.

Practically all clubs reported more vegetables grown and more food canned than ever before in their history, and most of the clubs reports did not include complete returns from all members.

"Home Improvement" covered many improvements and additions to farm houses and furnishings, and electrical labor-saving furnishings, as refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, irons, etc. Electric lights have been added to many homes. Many pressure cookers have been added.

An average of two cows on every member's farm was reported from Walnut Creek. New vegetables, bees, poultry, hogs and other items are listed as additions to the sources of cash income for the home. Brooders have been built, sinks and bath rooms installed.

Dried and stored food is reported in large quantity, Stiles-Tellico reporting that five women alone dried and stored 4,935 pounds. Eight members of Otter Creek filled 3,706 quart cans. Mrs. Lawrence Ramsey of Iotla was reported to have put up 800 quarts. Scaly reports that every family has put up from one to 22 dozen more cans than ever before.

Reports from various clubs were given by the following:

Holly Springs, Miss Callie Deal; Walnut Creek, Mrs. Ella Peck; Otto, Miss Clara Norton; Cullasaja, Mrs. Prichard Peck; Iotla, Mrs. Paul Swafford; Oak Grove, Mrs. Thelma Parrish; Cartoogechaye, Mrs. Joe Setser; Scaly, Mrs. John Burnette; Patton, Mrs. Kate McNeil; Hickory Knoll, Mrs. J. S. Gray; West's Mill, Mrs. Leo Gibson; Tellico, Mrs. Cleva Anderson; Union, Mrs. Walter Ledford.

Tribute To Mrs. Sherrill

All clubs paid tribute to the untiring help given by their leader, Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill, to whom much of the credit was given for the results of their work.

Legion Auxiliary To Meet October 27

The American Legion Auxiliary will meet on Monday evening, October 27, at 7:30 o'clock. The meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Henry. All members are urged to attend.