

The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE LIBERAL INDEPENDENT

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\$2.00 PER YEAR

2,161 PERSONS LEFT MACON IN 2-YEAR PERIOD

One Out Of Every Eight Left Here In Early Part Of War

One person out of every eight in Macon County left here during the early part of the war, figures compiled by the U. S. Bureau of the Census show.

This county's official count of population in 1940 was 15,880.

By November 1, 1943, it had dropped to 13,719. That figure is based on the Census Bureau check if the number of men, women, and children in the county who registered for War Ration Book No. 4.

The net loss was 2,161, or 13.6 per cent of the 1940 population.

By the time the war was over, the total loss, of course, was much greater, since hundreds of persons left this county after November, 1943, to enter the armed forces or to work in war plants.

Nor would a figure up to the war's end tell the complete story of population loss, because there was a heavy exodus, to the armed forces and to war plants prior to 1946.

The war resulted in a population loss for every county in the mountain area, except Graham, that county registered the phenomenal increase of 5,257 persons, or an 81.9 per cent gain.

Neighboring Clay, the state's smallest county, was hardest hit. A 29.1 per cent loss between 1940 and 1943 cost that county 1,863 of its residents, leaving only 4,542 at home.

Do You Remember ... ?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Messrs. Ashe and McGee made a raid Monday night and captured two prisoners at Corundrum Hill for violation of the revenue laws. It was dark and McGee fell into the mill-race and was thoroughly soaked with water and, on his arrival in Franklin about midnight, he was nearly frozen.

Burningtown—Married at the residence of the bride's grandmother, March 5, 1896, Miss Lily Reeves to Mr. Irving Drinlin, C. S. Ray, Esq., officiating.

Calico reduced from seven and a half cents to five cents at Wright's. Warranted fast colors.

25 YEARS AGO

Gneiss News: Surely gray-bearded winter is not trying to deceive us. Listen to the frogs croaking along Sugarfork, and the cooing of the birds in the trees overhead. Take a tramp through the forest. Get the odor of sprouting grass and swelling buds bursting into life. See the lovely arbutus trailing its graceful way over the cliffs, raising its clusters of dainty, fragile blossoms from the sun-kissed earth, filling the air with a perfume sweeter than any that ever came from the Orient. This is spring, harbinger of the good old summer time.

Did everybody see the "Flying Machine" that soared so high above our peaks? To many, it looked like a lone bird of the carrion class. Madam Rumor says that one thoughtful mother heard the noise and she feared the end of time was near at hand. So she called the family all into the house that they might go together.

10 YEARS AGO

T. W. Angel, Jr., was elected chairman of the Republican organization in Macon County at the party's biennial county convention in the courthouse Saturday. He succeeds Walter Dean, of Etna. E. B. DeHart was elected secretary, succeeding Don Henry.

Two camps of the Civilian Conservation Corps in Macon County have been ordered to disband shortly after April 1.

War Bond Sales In Macon Totaled Nearly 3 Million

Macon County business firms, organizations, and individuals bought government bonds totaling nearly three million dollars, during the war.

The final, complete figures have been received by H. W. Cabe, county war loan chairman, from the Treasury department.

All bonds sold in this county, from 1941 through 1945, totaled \$2,984,291—an average of nearly \$200 for every man, woman, and child in the county.

Of this total, \$1,517,374.50, or slightly more than half, was in "E" bonds, the bonds issued in smaller denominations, and de-

signed primarily for the small, individual investor.

In each of the eight bond drives, this county's quota was oversubscribed.

The "E" bond sales and the overall sales (including "E" bonds) for each of the five years follow:

Year	"E" Bonds	Overall Sales
1941	\$36,818.00	\$36,818.00
1942	209,915.00	258,764.00
1943	415,659.25	650,276.75
1944	498,709.00	1,237,349.00
1945	356,273.25	801,083.25
Totals	1,517,374.50	2,894,291.00

The Weather

Following are the official high and low temperature readings and the amount of rainfall for each of the past seven days here:

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	62	54	.79
Friday	76	50	.13
Saturday	70	50	.77
Sunday	65	44	.04
Monday	66	41	.02
Tuesday	59	39	.13
Wednesday	63	42	.17

Rainfall for week, 2.05 inches.

NOTE: Rainfall listed for each day is for the 24 hours ending at 6 a. m. on that day.

Death Claims W. H. Sellers; Rites Tuesday

William H. Sellers, 77, died at his home on Harrison avenue last Sunday afternoon at 6:40 o'clock of a heart attack. He had been in failing health for several months.

Born October 21, 1868, in the Watauga section of this county, where he spent his early life, he was the son of George and Tabitha Sellers. During his active years, he was a farmer. For the past several years, he and Mrs. Sellers had operated the "Riverview" tourist home. He was a member of St. Agnes Episcopal church.

Mr. Sellers in 1898 married Miss Sallie Stalcup, and the widow and two daughters, Miss Gladys Sellers and Mrs. Dan T. Bryson, both of Franklin, survive. Also surviving are one sister, Mrs. Alex Berry of Franklin; one brother, John Sellers, of Gastonia; and one granddaughter, Sara Lee Bryson.

Funeral services were held at St. Agnes church Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, with the rector, the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, officiating. Interment was in the Franklin cemetery.

The pallbearers were Henry W. Cabe, J. S. Conley, George Stalcup, Cecil L. Pendergrass, Lawrence B. Liner, and B. L. McGlamery.

Bryant funeral home was in charge of arrangements.

Red Cross

Campaign Has Raised Half Of Quota

Reports received here up to Thursday from Red Cross workers throughout the county showed a total of \$1,669.23 contributed in the current campaign to raise funds for the organization's work during the coming year.

The total is slightly less than half of the quota of \$3,450 assigned to Macon county. It is more than \$500 greater, however, than the amount reported last week, when only a third of the quota had been raised.

A number of communities have not yet made final reports. Among them is Highlands, and the Rev. W. Jackson Huneycutt, chapter chairman, commented that "Highlands always can be depended to do its share."

While it is felt that reports from communities as yet unheard from will greatly boost the total so far reported, Red Cross officials expressed the belief that the quota cannot be raised unless everyone who has not already contributed does so now.

RITE HELD FOR MRS. BROWNING

Former Macon Teacher Succumbs After Long Illness

Funeral services for Mrs. Nannie West Browning, 56, of the West's Mill community, who died in a Western North Carolina sanatorium last Friday morning at 4 o'clock, were held at the Snow Hill Methodist church Sunday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock.

The Rev. D. P. Grant, pastor, officiated, assisted by the Rev. C. C. Welch, pastor of the Co-wee Baptist church, and the Rev. W. Jackson Huneycutt, pastor of the Franklin Methodist church. Interment followed in the Oak Grove cemetery.

Pallbearers were Charles Owens, Jr., Clyde J. Smith, H. P. Browning, John McCollum, J. L. West, Jr., and Zeb Gibson, Jr.

The flower girls were Misses Ruth West, Rebecca Nan Smith, Annie Marie Browning, Evelyn Browning, Ruth Smith Wilen and Mildred Dalton.

Mrs. Browning, the former Miss Nannie West, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Jess L. West, Sr., was born March 15, 1890, and was raised in the West's Mill community. She taught in the public schools of Macon county until her marriage to the late Vance A. Browning July 21, 1915.

She joined the Snow Hill Methodist church at the age of 14, and was active in church work as long as her health permitted.

During her long illness her sunny smile was an inspiration to all who came in contact with her.

Shortly following the death of her husband, in 1937, she moved from her home in Bryson City, where she had lived for 23 years, back to her old home place at West's Mill with her mother, who died last December.

Surviving are four sisters, Miss Vonnice West and Mrs. Clara W. Owens, of West's Mill, Mrs. Zeb Gibson, of Winston-Salem, and Mrs. Lewis J. Smith, of Cullowhee; and four brothers, Clyde N. West and Dr. J. L. West, of West's Mill, W. Floyd West, of Ibapah, Utah, and Harry H. West, of Asheville.

Potts funeral directors were in charge of arrangements.

Franchise

For Motor Freight To Franklin Sought

J. E. Robinson, representing the Blue Ridge Trucking company, Asheville, was in Franklin Tuesday seeking the support of local business men in the company's effort to get a hearing before the State Utilities commission on its application for a franchise to haul general freight between Asheville, Sylva, Bryson City, and Franklin.

The application, which, Mr. Robinson said, has been pending since February 7, sets forth that the Atlanta-Asheville Motor express operates a daily through service between Atlanta and Asheville, but that it carries solid truck loads from Canton to Atlanta, so that it offers no east-west service for the towns between, and that the only other carrier operating over part of this route is the Smith Transfer—which recently went into receivership.

BAPTISTS PLAN IMPROVEMENTS TO BUILDING

Fine Organ And Pulpit Furniture To Be Donated

Members of the Franklin Baptist church, at a church conference Wednesday night, voted to make improvements to the church that are expected to cost several thousand dollars.

At the same time it was announced that a member of the congregation will give the church a Hammond or Organon organ, while another member will donate new pulpit furniture. Both donors asked to remain anonymous.

The plan for improvements in the building calls for tearing out the rear of the pulpit and construction of a choir loft, and for the elevation of the baptistry. The two changes are expected to add about 50 per cent to the seating capacity of the church auditorium.

It also is planned to install opera chairs in the Sunday school rooms, if and when the chairs can be obtained.

Box Supper

To Be Held At School Here Friday At 8

A box supper will be held at the Franklin school Friday (March 22) night at 8 o'clock, for the benefit of the fund being raised to bring the N. C. Symphony Orchestra to Franklin for a concert April 2.

A good string band will be present to provide music, and there will be square dancing and a cake walk.

The Parent-Teacher association, at its meeting Monday night, voted to sponsor the event, since members expressed the belief that the appearance of the concert here is an educational event of the first importance. The orchestra will give a free concert in the afternoon for the school children.

Mrs. R. S. Jones, Mrs. W. E. Hunnicutt, and Mrs. John B. Ginn were appointed as the committee in charge. B. L. (Benny) McGlamery will auction the boxes.

Members of the committee pointed out that, while a box supper is not a new idea, there are many persons here who never have attended one, and that it will prove a novel form of entertainment to them. Those who have been to box suppers, it was added, "know how much fun they are."

The parent-teacher meeting was featured by an open forum, led by Mrs. Eloise G. Franks, county welfare superintendent, on school truancy as a contributing factor to juvenile delinquency. It was brought out that 29 children who are supposed to be attending the Franklin school have not been often enough this year to be counted as in school, and 23 of them haven't been to the school once this year.

Mrs. Franks pointed out that juvenile delinquency in North Carolina has decreased markedly since the close of the war.

Penland

Wins W. N. C. Public Speaking Contest

Louis Penland, 14-year old Macon County boy, walked away with the honors at a Western North Carolina public speaking contest held at Cullowhee Wednesday. The contest was a part of the vocational agriculture program in the high schools, and five other schools in this region were represented.

The subject of his talk was "It Takes a Farm-Minded People to Make a Success of Farming."

Young Penland, who won over three other Franklin school vocational agriculture students in a preliminary here last Friday, now is eligible to enter the district contest in May. The winner of that will enter the state contest.

Farmer purchases of baby chicks in 1946 are expected to be about 14 per cent lower than in 1945.

35 From Macon Now In School, Under G. I. Bill

A total of 35 Macon County veterans of World War 2, taking advantage of the educational provisions of the G. I. Bill of Rights, are now in school, figures compiled by Bob S. Sloan, veterans service officer, show.

The applications of approximately 50 others are pending, he added.

These figures do not include the veterans who taking the on-the-job apprentice and farm training made possible by the G. I. bill.

DEATH CLAIMS ZEB V. SHOPE

Prentiss Resident Long Had Been Active In County Affairs

Zeb V. Shope, widely known Macon county citizen, died at his home in the Prentiss community last Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, following an illness of several months. He was 69 years old.

Death was attributed to a heart ailment and complications.

A life-long resident of Macon county, he was active in its affairs up to the time of his last illness. A leading Democrat, he had served as chairman of the county board of elections and as coroner, and for many years was a member of his community's school committee. Only recently, he was instrumental in getting a graveled road through his community, for which he donated the stone and much of the labor. His advice on public and community affairs was often sought and highly respected.

For four years, Mr. Shope was a game warden for the Nantahala National forest. Funeral services were held at the Pleasant Hill Baptist church in the Prentiss section Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock, with the Rev. James I. Vinson, of Dillard, Ga., Route 1, the Rev. G. E. Scroggs, pastor of the Prentiss Baptist church, and the Rev. V. N. Allen, pastor of the Macon Methodist circuit, officiating. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

The pallbearers were J. L. Sanders, Earl Harrison, Paul Bryson, A. O. Stampley, and Ray Swafford, sons-in-law, and Woodrow Shope, a nephew.

The honorary pallbearers included A. B. Slagle, J. M. Harrison, Robert A. Patton, Ben Harrison, Sam Stockton, J. C. Sanders, Worley DeHart and Charles Ledford.

The flower bearers were Mrs. Frank Shope, Mrs. Quince Shope, Mrs. Lake V. Shope and Mrs. Jess Shope, daughters-in-law, and Misses Edith, Margaret, Elura Belle and Betty Sanders and Miss Jeanette Harrison, granddaughters.

Surviving are the widow; 13 children, Mrs. J. L. Sanders, of Prentiss, Mrs. Earl Harrison, Franklin, Route 1, Mrs. A. O. Stampley, Portsmouth, Va., Mrs. Paul Bryson, Waynesville, Mrs. Ray Swafford, Franklin, and John F. Shope, Quince M. Shope, Lake V. Shope, Jess E. Shope, Ledger B. Shope, William L. Shope and Z. Weaver Shope, all of Franklin, and Lieut. W. R. Shope, of the U. S. maritime service; 19 grandchildren; one great-grandchild, and one brother, Ed V. Shope, of Prentiss.

Potts funeral home was in charge of arrangements.

Highway Patrolman Smith Assigned To Duty In Franklin

The State Highway patrol has assigned a patrolman to Franklin, and he will move here in the near future, it was announced this week.

The new patrolman here is Pritchard Smith, who for several years before entering the armed forces was stationed at Murphy.

At present, he is working out of Sylva, but will make headquarters here as soon as he can obtain a car and other necessary equipment.

2 MORE OUT FOR SHERIFF, 1 FOR COMMISSIONER

Bryson, Norton, And Stewart Announce Candidacies

Three more Democrats this week announced that they are candidates for the nominations to county offices in the party primary May 25.

Two seek the post of sheriff, bringing to three the number in that race. The other announcement is for county commissioner, bringing to three the number running for the two memberships, other than chairman, on that board.

The new candidates are Bill Bryson and Paschal Norton, for sheriff; and Harley Stewart, for county commissioner.

Meanwhile, a county board of elections was appointed by the state board of elections at its meeting in Raleigh last Saturday. Named on the Macon County board are J. J. Mann, of Franklin, Route 2, chairman, George L. (Ted) Blaine, of Franklin, and George Dean, of Franklin. The first two are Democrats, the third a Republican. Mr. Mann and Mr. Dean both were reappointed, while Mr. Blaine succeeds Porter Pierson, of Highlands, who resigned several weeks ago.

The board of elections is charged with responsibility for naming registrars and judges for the primary and general elections, having tickets printed, and supervising the elections.

Republicans To Meet

In the Republican camp, a gathering of leaders from the various townships is slated for Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock in the courtroom of the courthouse. At that time, the new executive committee, made up of chairmen of the precinct committees, will meet and organize. The precinct meetings were scheduled for last Saturday afternoon, but in many cases rain interfered. It was expected that those precinct committees would be selected in the course of this week, or possibly just prior to the executive meeting Saturday.

Mr. Stewart, the new candidate for county commissioner, is a native of Jackson county, but was reared in Macon, and he and his family now make their home in the Patton settlement. Mr. Stewart, a farmer, bought the Andy Angel place in 1941, and his place, a unit demonstration farm, has been cited as an example of how good farm practices pay.

Others In Race

The other two candidates already announced for membership on the board of commissioners are W. W. Edwards, of Highlands, who seeks to succeed himself, and John W. Roane, of Cartoogechay.

Mr. Norton, one of the two new candidates for sheriff, was reared in Smith Bridge township, where his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Norton, still live. He was educated in the Macon and Jackson county schools, and since 1940 has been manager of the Dixie store here, except for three years in the navy, two years of which were spent in the Pacific. Discharged with the rating of boatswain second class, he returned to Franklin last November. He and Mrs. Norton, the former Miss Maybur Henson, and their infant son make their home in Franklin.

Mr. Bryson, the other new candidate for sheriff, was reared in the Cullasaja community. He was graduated from the Iotla High school and took a commercial course at the Edwards Business college in Winston-Salem. For eight years he was finance officer and assistant superintendent—later, superintendent—of WPA work in Macon county. Entering the army, he served 30 months as a member of the military police, two years of which was spent in Alaska and Canada. He was recently discharged, and served this year as tax lister for this township. He and Mrs. Bryson, the former Miss Meda Peek, make their home in Franklin. The third Democratic candidate for sheriff is L. B. Phillips, who announced sometime ago.