

County Tax Valuation \$10,500,000

HEALTH BOARD OK'S FILTERED CREEK WATER

Officials Hope To Get Units In Operation In Few Days

Creek water, passed through one of the filtering-chlorinating units recently bought by the town, has been approved by state health authorities, and town officials hope to have the units in operation shortly, pumping water into the town system.

A sample of the water, after it had passed through the filter and had been chlorinated, several days ago was sent to Raleigh for analysis, and Mayor T. W. Angel, Jr., Wednesday received a telegram from the health authorities pronouncing the water satisfactory.

The plan is to use the two units, bought from the government surplus, to pump creek water into the town mains as a temporary means of increasing the municipality's inadequate water supply.

The plan is to take the water from the creek that runs through the Gilmer L. Crawford farm and under the Murphy road. It is proposed to install the units at a point near the entrance to the Crawford farm. This will necessitate laying about 300 feet of pipe to the end of the town's water main on that road. In order to get the units in operation immediately, however, fire hose may be used temporarily, instead of pipe, town officials said.

Meanwhile, the water level in the reservoirs, while still low, is somewhat higher than it was a week ago, it was said.

The Rev. C. C. Welch returned Wednesday, after spending three days at a conference at Fruitland institute, in Henderson county.

Do You Remember...?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 Years Ago This Week
50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
 A party of boys: Will Curtis, Cornaro Baird, Alfred Baird, Oscar Ashe, Lon William Homer McConnell and Walter McConnell went to Nantahala on a fishing jamboree last Wednesday and returned Saturday. They report a catch of 212 trout.

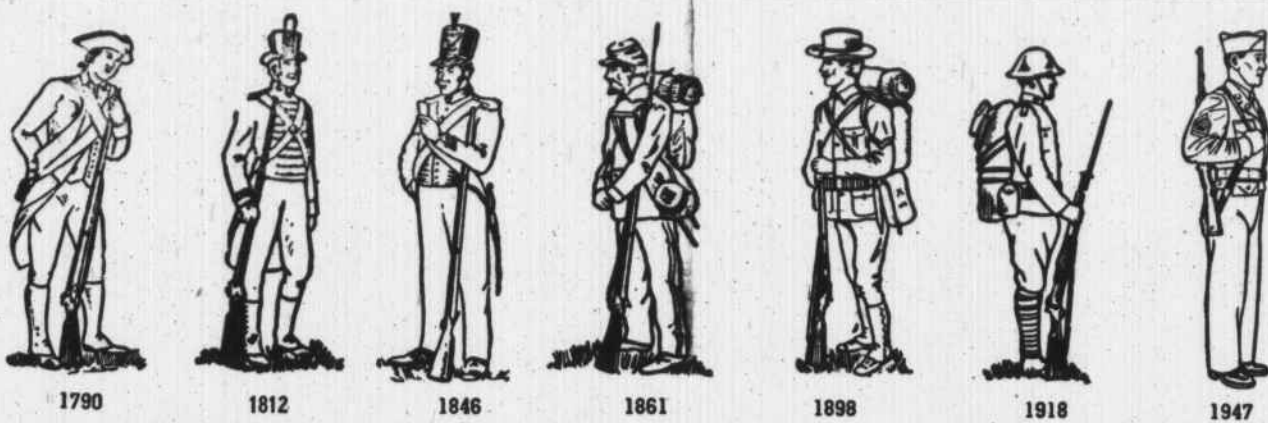
Murphy is following in the wake of Franklin in putting on city airs. The town council have forbidden bicycle riding on the sidewalks and stock running at large on the streets.

25 YEARS AGO
 In a one sided game of ball played here Saturday the Franklin team defeated the Clayton boys by a score of 11 to 2 in a seven inning game. The following is a lineup for the Franklin team. Duvall, 1b; Mallonee, cf; Rogers, cf; Louis Angel, c; Sloan 3b; Cunningham, 2b; Tom Angel, ss; Rhodes, 1f; Jones p.

Mr. John H. Thomas has just finished the first kiln of brick at his new brick yard near his home and some of the brick are being used in the construction of Mr. W. L. McCoy's building on Main street. The brick are of a pretty light color and are pronounced by those who have seen them to be the equal of any brick ever used in Franklin.

10 YEARS AGO
 Curb market stalls and a playground are under construction on the property recently acquired by the county, extending through the block from Main street to Church street.

M. D. Billings will begin next week the erection of a second story on his building across the street from the courthouse and which is now occupied by the A & P store, the Nantahala Power and Light company, John Moore, and the City market.



EVOLUTION OF UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT OF THE U. S. ARMY INFANTRYMAN—The progress of the United States in providing for its national defense is pictured graphically in the sketches above. The pitifully small but courageous force mustered by the new government in 1790 paraded in cocked hat and long-tailed coat and carried the ancient flintlock musket. In the War of 1812 the uniform was improved but the flintlock remained, except for Jackson's famous riflemen in New Orleans. The percussion musket, along with the rifle, came in 1846 late in the Mexican War, when a conspicuous uniform and a cockaded cap made the soldier a perfect target. In the War Between the States the same long-barreled rifle remained. The uniform was blue, a color that was popular with the quartermasters as well as writers of war songs, until khaki was introduced in the Spanish-American War in 1898. The breechloader and repeating rifle came in during the Indian campaigns in the 1870s. World War I saw amazing improvements both in uniform and equipment. Infantry units embraced machine gun platoons and the new steel helmet was of practical service. The sketch labeled 1947 was made from a photograph of a soldier in the latest outfit, with battle jacket and overseas cap. The color is "O.D. 33", a shade of olive drab. The sketch shows a carbine, but the infantryman may also carry the M-1 rifle and hand grenades, and among his comrades are teams trained in the use of the machine gun, the bazooka, the tommygun, automatic rifle, etc.

39 MEN FROM 5 STATES ON BALD

Senior Scout Expedition On Wayah Will End On Friday

Thirty-nine men from five states have been participating in the senior scout training expedition on Wayah Bald this week. The gathering, which opened last Saturday, will close tomorrow (Friday).

While "Camp Hangover", private camp of Gilmer A. Jones, has been headquarters for the expedition, the men have spent a large part of the time camping in tents and trail hiking.

The purpose of the expedition is to devise and test camping and hiking techniques and procedures, with a view to their use by senior scout units in Boy Scout Region No. 6. The region embraces the two Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida.

Atlanta, Raleigh, Southern Pines, Tallahassee, Fla., Griffin, Ga., Thomaston, Ga., Macon, Ga., Spartanburg, S. C., Union, S. C., Rome, Ga., and New York City are among cities represented by scout leaders in attendance.

The expedition is under the direction of Herbert Stuckey, of Atlanta, deputy scout executive for this region.

Lions Hold 'Ladies' Night' At Arrowwood

"Ladies' Night" was observed by the Franklin Lions club with a picnic supper held at Arrowwood Glade Monday evening.

Approximately 65 persons, 35 of them members of the club, were present for the outing. The evening was devoted to picnicking and fun, with no formal program held.

Talley and Burnette Store In New Building

The mercantile firm of Talley and Burnette, which has been located on the north side of Highlands' West Main street for the past 12 years, moved this week to the new J. D. Burnette building, on the north side of East Main street.

This new building, constructed of concrete blocks, will furnish a floor space of 2,500 feet on the ground floor, in addition to a basement of the same size which will be used as a warehouse, according to J. D. Burnette, owner of the new building and partner in the firm of Talley and Burnette.

Moving of the firm's present stock was completed Thursday, and the store opened for business in its new location that day.

FORESTER HERE
 Rezin Pidgeon, of Atlanta, assistant regional forester, was here the latter part of last week and the first of this on a functional inspection of the Nantahala National Forest.

Thinks Stone From Blast Killed Mule; Asks Investigation

The sheriff's office Wednesday morning received a request to investigate the death of a mule.

Earle Blaine, of the Wayah section, said earlier this week the mule, kept in the pasture near the Blaine home, showed evidence of paralysis of the hind legs. Mr. Blaine said he examined the animal and found a bruise on its back. He told the officers he believes the animal was struck and injured by a piece of stone thrown in the air by a blast at the nearby quarry of the state highway commission.

Sheriff's deputies said they found big pieces of freshly broken stone in the pasture. They told Mr. Blaine that the matter was one to be taken up with the highway department.

Capt. Patton Picked To Attend Air Tactical School

Capt. James D. Patton, son of R. A. Patton, of Franklin, has been selected to attend the second class of the army air tactical school at Tyndall Field, Fla., according to an announcement received here.

Capt. Patton, who remained in the army after the war ended, is now stationed at Panama City, Fla.

The air tactical school is the basic school of the air university system. Its purpose, the announcement explained, is to teach the basic principles required by officers to successfully handle the responsibility as squadron commanders and staff duties.

Upon completion of the course, Capt. Patton will be returned to his former station at Biggs Field, Texas.

Methodist Supper Set For Friday Night At 7

The F. S. Johnston Bible class will be host at this month's fellowship supper of the congregation of the Franklin Methodist church. The supper meeting will be held in the church basement tomorrow (Friday) night at 7 o'clock.

Next Week's Issue Of Press To Be Published Wednesday

Because of the July 4 holiday next Friday, The Franklin Press and Highlands Maconian next week will go to press 24 hours earlier than usual.

The Press ordinarily is put in the post office at Franklin late Thursday, and is delivered to subscribers on the rural routes Friday morning.

Since there will be no mail delivery on the rural routes next Friday, rural

URGES TOWN BE MADE BEAUTIFUL

Slagle, Back From West, Says Franklin Is Missing Chance

Franklin and other communities in Western North Carolina are missing a big opportunity by failing to beautify their towns, A. B. Slagle, just back from a trip to the Pacific Coast, declared in a talk at Wednesday night's meeting of the Rotary club.

Throughout the West, Mr. Slagle pointed out, the people have done wonders in making their towns attractive. Things are clean, the towns have been planned with an eye to beauty, and everywhere there are flowers.

"Here in Western North Carolina we have lots more to start with, and we're doing nothing about it."

"I feel like we are failing to take advantage of our advantages."

Mr. Slagle indicated that nothing impressed him more on his trip than the way the Western towns have been beautified, and he emphasized that Franklin, with its natural beauty to build on, has a much better opportunity to become a beautiful town than most of those he visited.

In his talk, he told the Rotarians of his trip to the convention of Rotary International, in San Francisco. He returned from California Thursday of last week.

At Wednesday night's meeting Retiring President Harmon Gnuse turned the club gavel and president's button over to R. S. Jones, whose term as president starts July 1.

Forest Group Holds 3-Day Meeting Here

Rangers of the Nantahala National Forest—John Wasilik, Wayah district, George Anderson, Tusquitee district, and John Olson, Nantahala district—Thursday completed a three-day conference here with E. W. Renshaw, supervisor, and other officials. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss allotment estimates for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Rice Containing Rat Poison Eaten; Six In Hospital

Mrs. Dessie Eller and her five children, of Titus, Towns county, Ga., are seriously ill at Angel clinic, suffering from poisoning resulting from eating rice that had been contaminated with rat poison. All are expected to recover, it was said Wednesday at the clinic, although Mrs. Eller still is quite ill. Federal and Georgia state officials were here Wednesday making an investigation of circumstances surrounding the poisoning.

Hill Elected Principal At Robbinsville

George H. Hill, principal of the Franklin district school for the past three years, Monday was elected as principal of the Robbinsville school.

Mr. Hill has accepted the position, and he and his family plan to move to Robbinsville about the first of July.

The transfer to Robbinsville is in the nature of a promotion for Mr. Hill, it is understood, since the Robbinsville school is larger than the one here. Thirty-five teachers are employed there, as compared with 29 at the Franklin school. At Robbinsville, he will succeed J. D. Warrick.

W. H. Finley will succeed Mr. Hill here as supervising principal of the schools in this district. Mr. Finley served in that capacity from 1939 to 1942.

Mr. Hill has taken an active part in the community life of Franklin. He has been active in the Lions club, during recent months has served as superintendent of the Methodist Sunday school here, and has participated in many other community projects.

Nichols, Formerly Here, Given Post In N. M.

H. B. Nichols, one-time administrative assistant in the Nantahala National Forest office here, has just been promoted to the position of Forest Service regional fiscal agent at Albuquerque, N. M., it has been learned. Mr. and Mrs. Nichols, en route for New Mexico, were here Tuesday and Wednesday visiting Mrs. Nichols' relatives.

PLAN ALL-DAY SING

The fifth Sunday Singing convention will meet at the courthouse Sunday morning at 10 o'clock, for an all day singing, it has been announced by James M. Raby, president. All singers from adjoining counties and states, as well as those in Macon County, are invited to attend to take part.

Bruce Bryant, who recently underwent an operation at Angel hospital is reported to be improving and is expected to be back at work in a few days.

IS \$750,000 AHEAD OF LAST YEAR'S TOTAL

Macon's Taxable Wealth Has Nearly Doubled In 6-Year Period

For the first time in its history, Macon County's taxable wealth is in excess of \$10,000,000.

This year's total tax valuation will be slightly more than \$10,500,000, figures compiled this week by Lake V. Shope, county tax supervisor, show.

This represents an increase of approximately three-quarters of a million dollars over the total of a year ago. Last year's total was \$9,754,000. In terms of percentage, the county's wealth has increased by nearly eight per cent during the year.

In the past six years, the taxable wealth of the county has almost doubled. In 1941 the total was only \$5,772,399.

The exact total for the current year (the fiscal year starting July 1) is not available, Mr. Shope said, since all the returns from the North Carolina State Board of Assessment have not been received. That board fixes tax valuations of all corporations in the state.

The final figure, however, will be slightly more than \$10,500,000, the tax supervisor said.

The last returns from the state board are expected to be in by the last of this week, and, on a basis of the total tax valuation of the county, the board of county commissioners will prepare its budget and fix a tax rate.

The board is expected to be in session most of the day Monday, working on the county budget and discussing with members of the county board of education that body's budget. The education board prepares its own budget, but submits it to the county commissioners for approval or disapproval.

The board of education members also are expected to discuss with the commissioners the issuance and sale of the \$400,000 in bonds voted for the purpose of building new schools.

'Lost Colony', Now 10 Years Old, Will Open Season July 4

It isn't often that a play is still going strong years after it was first presented to the public. But North Carolina has one of its own which on July 4 will be 10 years old.

It is "The Lost Colony", which next Tuesday will begin a 49-performance season in the Waterside Theatre at Fort Raleigh, three miles north of Manteo. This record is all the more remarkable for the fact that when Paul Green's symphonic drama opened on July 4, 1937, it was intended as a more or less local, one-season commemoration of the events which occurred at Fort Raleigh—the first British attempts to colonize the New World, and the birth of Virginia Dare, the first English child born in America.

Plan All-Day Service At Tabernacle Sunday

An all-day service will be held at Friendship Tabernacle Sunday beginning at 10 a. m., with dinner to be served on the grounds at noon. A children's day program will be held in the afternoon.

Franklin SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Results
 Friday, June 20:—
 Oilers 11; NP&L Co. 12.
 Rotary 4; Burrell 2.
 Monday, June 23:—
 NP&L Co 14; Burrell 10.
 Oilers 2; Veterans 15.
Coming Games
 Friday, June 27:—
 Zickgraf vs Veterans.
 Rotary vs NP&L Co.
 Monday, June 30:—
 Oilers vs Zickgraf.
 Rotary vs Veterans.