

# The Franklin Press

and  
The Highlands Maconian

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## Watersheds Used By Most Towns In Mountain Region

### 12 Of 16 Covered In Survey Rely On Gravity Systems; Plan For Future, Mayors Suggest

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Since the water situation appears to be the most important and the most discussed problem facing Franklin, The Press herewith publishes the first of a series of factual articles on the subject of municipal water supplies, purely as a matter of information for its readers. Believing that the experience of other towns in this area might be of value, the paper has made a survey, by questionnaire, of the water situation in 16 other Western North Carolina municipalities. The results of that survey are published below.)

Most Western North Carolina towns get their municipal water supplies from watersheds, with gravity carrying the water from impounding basins or reservoirs to the towns, a survey shows.

The survey was made through questionnaires recently sent by The Press to mayors of 20 towns in this mountain region. Sixteen of the 20 replied.

Each mayor was asked, first of all, what type of water system his town has.

Of the 16 from which replies were received, 11 depend exclusively on watersheds with gravity flow, while a twelfth gets its main supply from a watershed.

Two pump water out of a river or creek.

One pumps water from a spring inclosed by a tank.

And one uses a combination watershed-gravity system and a creek pumping plant.

None of the 16 relies on deep wells. Only one, in fact, uses wells at all. Mayor Gordon H. Winkler, of Boone, reported that his town has dug two deep wells purely as a supplement to its gravity system.

Marshall reported that it previously used wells, but that that plan was abandoned in favor of a gravity system, because of the "inadequate water supply and excessive cost" of pumping water from wells.

**Questions Asked**  
The mayors also were asked if their systems provide adequate supplies of water of good quality; the quantities obtained; how much the systems cost;

what the operating costs per year are; if the systems are self-liquidating; and about their experience with other systems.

Replies were received from Robbinsville, Bryson City, Sylva, Highlands, Waynesville, Brevard, Tryon, Black Mountain, Weaverville, Boone, Burnsville, and Marshall, all of which have gravity systems; Marion and Lenoir, which pump their water from streams; Canton, which has a gravity system, supplemented by an arrangement for pumping water from the river; and Hayesville, which pumps its water from a spring, which is covered by a tank.

**Offer Comments**  
Quite as interesting as the facts and figures developed by the survey are the comments and suggestions offered by some of the mayors, with most of them emphasizing the idea that a town should plan for the future, counting upon rapid growth.

"Build larger than you think you need," writes Caley of W. L. Snyder. "Do not rely on small stream or small impounding lake. Meter your entire water system."  
"Make sure source is adequate, even if cost is more," suggests Mayor James O. Beale of Highlands.

"In our opinion, gravity system operated on meters is most satisfactory," suggests J. J. Ramsey, town clerk at Marshall, which has tried both wells and the gravity system.

"Get you a watershed," urges Mayor Fred D. Pass, of Hayesville. "Cost lots, but your troubles are over for life."

**Dam Too Small**  
"Our impounding dam is too small to supply the summer demand," comments Clerk W. W. Morgan, of Black Mountain.

"Watershed system should have a filter," Brevard's clerk-treasurer, T. M. Barker, suggests.

Mayor Winkler of Boone writes:

"We have a good watershed and the water is pure after being chlorinated. However we made a mistake and built our dam too close to the source of the water and during continuous dry weather we have a short—Continued On Page Eight

## START PUMPING AGAIN AT WELL ON MAIN STREET

### Officials Say Pump May Have To Be Lowered For Best Results

New parts and piping for Franklin's municipal well on West Main street have arrived, and installation was completed Tuesday by the Nantahala Power and Light company.

Late Tuesday the pump was started, forcing the well water into the mains, but Wednesday power company officials said some further tests were necessary. It may be found desirable, it was said, to lower the pump and install additional discharge pipe in order to obtain the maximum amount of water. The pump is now operating at a point about 100 feet below the surface in the 325-foot well.

The pump and piping were taken out of the well September 9 for checking, and at that time it was determined that new parts and piping were needed. The well has been out of operation since that time, pending arrival of the materials.

In the meanwhile, the two filtering-chlorinating units and pump on a creek at the west end of town have been operating constantly during the day-time, six days a week.

The water is passed through the filter units to remove sand, etc., chlorine is added in the ration of about one part per million for purification purposes, and alum, an acid, and soda ash, an alkali, are added to make the water clear.

Pumping at capacity, the two units provide approximately 100 gallons per minute. T. L. Ra-born, who is in charge of the plant, said.

With the well pump back in operation, it will be necessary to use the creek water only as a supplement to the well system, and this will result in a smaller proportion of heavily chlorinated water being pumped into the West Main street main and thence into the town tanks on Bidwell street.

The Nantahala company, which volunteered to check the well pump without charge, will be asked to make checks of the other two town wells, it was said.

## Panthers Win, 20 to 7, From Hayesville 11

The Franklin Panthers gained their first win of the season by defeating the Hayesville eleven last Friday night on the local gridiron by a score of 20 to 7.

Franklin scored early in the game, with Shorty Mason carrying the ball over to climax a drive that started on the local team's 30-yard line. A pass from Flanagan to Angel was good for the extra point.

Hayesville came right back to tie the score, driving almost the length of the field, with Cunningham spearheading the offense on short line bucks. Cunningham carried over from the three-yard line for the touch—Continued on Page Eight

## Clayton Spending \$273,000 For Adequate Water Supply

Franklin's next-door neighbor to the south, Clayton, Ga., is in the midst of a \$400,000 water and sewer improvement program.

Clayton is spending \$273,000 on a water system, including the laying of additional mains, and \$120,000 for sewers.

A 1,000 acre watershed at the head of the Little Tennessee river has been obtained from the Chattahoochee National forest, and an impounding reservoir is being built near Mountain City.

The town is laying nine miles of cast iron pipe line. A 10-inch line will carry the water by gravity the three and a half miles to Clayton, and a six-inch line will extend the five and a half miles to Tiger, which community the system also will serve.

A water treatment plant also

is being constructed. The project is expected to be completed by the middle of the winter.

In the past, Clayton has obtained its water supply from 10 small springs, and recently it has been necessary to supplement the supply by pumping from two small streams.

Sometime ago the water situation in Clayton became serious, and the town obtained a government planning loan of \$18,000, with which to pay engineers to prepare plans and specifications and estimate costs of a water-sewer project. This was followed by a mass meeting, at which the proposal to issue bonds was approved.

The bond issue of slightly more than \$400,000 was sold at an interest rate of three per cent.

## 9,000 Books Are Available To Public At Library Here

Nearly nine thousand books are available to the people of Macon County at the Franklin public library. Biographies, best selling novels, mysteries, reference books and books dealing with religion, philosophy, and the social sciences all may be found on the shelves there—even if the shelves are a little crowded, due to lack of room.

The library is widely used throughout the county, the average number of books being taken out each month running from 1,400 to 1,600. Among the largest groups of users are school children and tourists. Mrs. Frank I. Murray, who has worked with the library the past eight years, said there has been a gradual increase in the number of patrons among the county residents during this time and that now there are "readers from the head of Ellijay to Nantahala."

Among the current best sellers listed as being available at present are: "The Vixens", Yerby; "Kingsblood Royal", Lewis; "The Big Sky", Guthrie; "Mrs. Mike", Freidmans; "Lydia Bailey", Roberts; "The Mircle of the Bells", Janney; "The Wayward Bus", Steinbeck; "The Chequer Board", Shute; "East River", Asch; "Mr. Adam", Frank; "Pravillion of Women", Buck;

"Forever Amber", Winsor. Non-fiction best sellers on hand are: "Peace of Mind", Leibman; "Home Country", Pyle; "Inside USA", Gunther; "Three Came Home", Keith; "Hiroshima", Knoff.

The library, which is open every day, except Sundays and Mondays, from 1 a. m. until 5 p. m., is supported by the town, county, and state jointly.

One of the reasons for the library's steadily growing popularity is the fact that an average of 625 new books are obtained each year, according to the librarian.

In relating some of her experiences as librarian, Mrs. Murray said that people have a great deal of trouble in remembering titles. She recalled that when the novel, "Lamb In Her Bosom", was first popular, one of the patrons asked for "Sheep In Her Breast."

While the library deals primarily in books, several magazines are on the subscription list and copies of the National Geographic and Life have been kept on file for the past ten years.

Mrs. Murray added that she hopes persons who find a book marked "Franklin Library" in their home, would please bring it to the library.

## PICK MRS. SILER FOR AREA OFFICE

### Franklin Woman Named Assistant Head Of District PTA

Mrs. Allen Siler was elected assistant director of this 11-county P. T. A. district at the annual parent-teacher district conference, held at Sylva last Thursday. Mrs. Siler is first vice-president of the Franklin association.

Mrs. Melvin Taylor, of Bryson City, is the new district director, succeeding Mrs. T. A. Luther, of Asheville.

Mrs. Weimar Jones, president of the local association, reporting to the conservance on the work done here last year, said the local organization spent \$1,090.50 on various projects at the Franklin school.

Eight persons from Franklin were among the 179 attending the conference, which was marked by talks by state officers, a symposium, and musical selections by the Sylva school glee club and band, both under the direction of that school's public school music instructor. The delegates were served lunch at the school cafeteria.

Those attending from Franklin, in addition to Mrs. Siler and Mrs. Jones, were Mrs. John Bulgin, Mrs. Emory Hunnicutt, Mrs. C. N. Dowdle, Mrs. Gilmer L. Crawford, Mrs. Sam Alexander, and Mrs. Clint Byrd.

## They Grow Tall Corn In Cowee Community

One of the largest stalks of corn ever seen in this section was recently brought to The Press office by J. C. Sorrells of the Cowee community.

Mr. Sorrells said that the stalk, which was 14 feet, six inches tall, came from a field of four acres, all of which produced corn over six feet in height, with two ears and better to the stalk.

The grower complained that it would have been difficult to cut tops on the field if all the corn had grown as high as this single stalk, since it was nine feet to the first ear.

## CHAPEL SCHOOL PTA TO MEET TUESDAY NIGHT

The Chapel School P. T. A. will hold its regular meeting next Tuesday at 7:30 p. m. Officers for the coming year will be elected at this time. All members and friends are urged to attend this meeting.

**ATTEND MEETING**  
Mrs. Frank I. Murray attended the Secretaries Association of the Eastern Star in Asheville Monday. While in Asheville, Mrs. Murray was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Holbrooks.

## SECURITY OFFICIAL COMING

A representative of the Asheville field office of the Social Security administration will be at the register of deeds office in Franklin at 9 a. m. tomorrow (Friday).

## PRIVATE FLYING LICENSES GIVEN AT SCHOOL HERE

### Group Completes G. I. Course At Local Airport

Five veterans of World War 2 received their private operator's licenses when the first class of pilots was graduated from the Cooper Flying Service school here, under the G. I. training program, last Sunday.

Those receiving private pilots licenses are: Dean Carpenter, Frank Dean, Frank Plyler, all of Franklin; Raymond E. Allen, of Cullowhee, and Cash Clark, of Gay.

The course recently completed by these aviation enthusiasts covers 50 hours of ground school work and from 35 to 45 hours of flying instruction in the air.

Ground school instruction is under the supervision of Bill Perkins, and Robert Cooper, of the Cooper Flying service, and well known Franklin pilot, gives the flying instruction.

The course is open to any veteran who is qualified to receive a certificate of eligibility for educational instruction from the Veterans Administration, and the entire cost of the program is paid by the federal government, once the veteran is certified.

## 8 Grandchildren Of Pioneer Attend Corbins' Reunion

Descendants of John and Nancy Corbin gathered at the old Corbin home on Rabbit creek last Sunday for the annual reunion.

Following a bountiful dinner, which was served picnic style, the principal speakers were Hugh Monteith and John F. Corbin, both of Sylva.

Eight grandchildren of John Corbin, who came to Macon County in 1832, were present. Mrs. Charlotte Littlejohn of Gaffney, S. C.; J. L. Corbin of Sylva; and Mrs. W. A. Elliot, Mrs. Jess Elliot, Mrs. Walter Elliot, Mrs. Frank Crisp, Henry Corbin and Dewey Corbin, all of Franklin, Route 4.

The following officers were elected for the coming year: Dewey Corbin, president; O. C. Corbin, vice-president; and Miss Villa Corbin, secretary and historian.

A large number of out of town guests attended.

## Beg Your Pardon

When Robert Beasley recently was taken into custody at Ato, Ga., and brought back here to face charges, the local officers handling the case were Sheriff J. P. Bradley and Pritchard Smith, Jr., highway patrolman. The name of Sheriff Bradley was inadvertently omitted from the account of the arrest, published last week.

## Farmers With Big Corn Yields Asked To Report

Farmers who are expecting a yield of 100 bushels or more of corn per acre should contact the county agent's office immediately so that this yield may be estimated, County Agent S. W. Mendenhall, said this week. Several yields of over 100 bushels have been estimated.

## N. C. UNEMPLOYMENT LIGHT

Unemployment is much less prevalent in North Carolina than in the nation as a whole, it is announced by Henry E. Kendall, chairman of the N. C. Employment Security commission.

## Fall Fire Season Opens; Permits To Burn Are Required

The fall fire season is on hand and all persons are now required by law to obtain burning permits before burning any material in or within 500 feet of woodland. The rule applies during the months of October and November and from February 1 to June 1, according to an announcement this week by J. Fred Bryson, state fire warden for Macon County.

Burning permits may be obtained without cost from Carr Bryson, Cowee; Floyd Ramsey, Stiles; Andrew Gregory, Gneiss; John W. Edwards, Coweeta; W. W. Cochran, Flats; U. S. Forest Service ranger's office, Franklin, if the fire will be near government land; the register of deeds office, or from J. Fred Bryson.

## School Paper Is To Be Published At Franklin High

Under the sponsorship of the Junior class, the Franklin High school will again have its own newspaper.

"The Mountain Echo" will be published monthly by members of the Junior class. While the editorship and administration of the paper will be done by Juniors, contributions will be accepted from members of the high school at large.

The following have been named as members of the staff:

Miss Kathryn Long, editor; Miss Julia Ann Higdon, assistant editor; Hall Callahan and Miss Elizabeth Ann Phillips, advertising managers; Miss June Bradley, circulation manager; Boyce White, sports editor; Miss Mary Alice Archer, society editor; Miss Mary Ellen Higdon, exchange editor; and Mrs. Clint Johnson, faculty sponsor.

The paper, generally an eight-page edition, will be mimeographed by the students.

Complete with up-to-date news items, editorials, sports section, social items, jokes and advertising, the first edition of the paper will appear early in October.

## Building And Loan, In 25 Years, Has Lent \$615,500

The Macon County Building and Loan Association next week will mark its 25th anniversary.

The association started business October 6, 1922, when its books were first opened for the purchase of share of stock.

Starting with exactly nothing, the association has grown during the quarter century of its existence until today it has \$134,531 out on loan.

Since its organization, it has loaned a total of \$615,500 to 675 borrowers. The loans were for a variety of building purposes, about 100 of them having financed the construction of new

homes. As of January 1, this year, the association had a total of 177 stockholders.

Every loan has been collected, 100 cents on the dollar, it was said this week.

The association started business with the late John C. Wright as president. H. W. Cane was vice-president, S. H. Lyle, Jr., secretary-treasurer, and Gilmer A. Jones, attorney. Directors were J. S. Conley, the late Sam L. Franks, the late S. R. Joiner, the late Dr. S. H. Lyle, the late Gus Leach, and George Dean.

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**Do You Remember ... ?**  
(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

**50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK**  
Miss May McDowell, having received the free scholarship, left yesterday to enter the State Normal and Industrial school at Greensboro.

A team of Uncle D. Cunningham's horses attached to a hack ran away in Webster and tried to get into the county jail but lodged on the front porch.

In the show of Red Polled calves yesterday there were 16 on exhibition and the prizes awarded were as follows: 1st, G. N. Penland, \$5.00; 2nd, R. L. Porter, \$3.00; 3rd, F. S. Johnston, \$2.00; 4th, Ervin Patton, \$1.00.

**25 YEARS AGO**  
The Macon County Building and Loan Association will open its books for the first payments on stock October 6th and 7th between the hours of 9 a. m. and 8 p. m., at the office of the Association, Room 4, Bank of Franklin building.

Mr. W. E. Furr left Sunday for Atlanta, Ga., where he will resume his studies at the Atlanta Dental college.

**10 YEARS AGO**  
A service honoring those who have been members of the Franklin Methodist church for 50 years and more will be held at the church next Sunday evening. A study of the records reveals the following who joined the Franklin Methodist church 50 years or more ago, and who are still members: Mrs. W. N. Allman, Dr. F. T. Smith, Mrs. Geo. A. Jones, Mrs. G. L. Crawford, Mrs. E. R. Kennebrew, Mr. John O. Harrison, Mrs. Mary Lyle Waldrup, Mrs. F. T. Smith, Mrs. S. H. Lyle, Mrs. Lena Myers, Mrs. Myra Allman, Mrs. J. J. Conley, and Mrs. J. T. Moore.