

Macon Highway Safety Record for 1948 to Date
(From State Highway Patrol records)

KILLED 0
INJURED 0

Do Your Part to Keep These Figures Down!

The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE — LIBERAL — INDEPENDENT

VOL. LXIII—NO.3

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1948

\$2.00 PER YEAR

MACON COUNTY BIRTH RATE DROPS AGAIN

Total For 1947 Shows Decline For Third Year In Row

For the third consecutive year, the birth rate in Macon County has declined, according to the reports turned in to the office of Lake V. Shope, Macon county vital statistics registrar.

Last year's total number of births was 416, as compared with 420 for 1946 and 437 for 1945.

However, the death rate showed a greater decrease than the birth rate during the past year, as there were only 106 reported deaths, as compared with 143 last year.

While the figures seem to indicate that there is a trend toward a declining birth rate in Macon county, births during the last year outnumbered those of almost four to one. The birth rate per thousand population (1940 census) for the four years was:

The birth rate in Macon County per thousand population was 7.5 in 1945, 8.2 in 1946, and 6.6 in 1947.

The 1947 figures by townships, follows:

Township	Births	Deaths
Franklin	223	57
Millshoal	16	4
Ellijay	21	2
Sugarfork	16	2
Flats	3	2
Highlands	8	6
Cartoogechaye	28	9
Burningtown	22	4
Smiths Bridge	10	7
Cowee	32	10
Nantahala	37	4
Total	416	106

Community Meeting Tonight On Hospital Project

All citizens of the Highlands community are invited to attend a community meeting at the school theater tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock. It was announced last week.

An open forum discussion of the topic, "Do You Want a Hospital", is planned.

Active solicitation for the hospital fund will be held at the meeting, it was announced.

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

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

The quantity of Georgia "high head" that is reported to have been peddled out in town one night last week is variously estimated at from 125 to 200 gallons.

W. H. Waldrup left Monday for the southern market with 14 head of mules.

Bryson Green and Charley Rankin left last week for Atlanta. It is said to join the United States Army.

25 YEARS AGO

One of the enjoyable affairs of the year was held in the town square last Saturday night at the Hotel Franklin by the Board of Trade.

The banquet was in charge of committee of ladies and they should be given much credit for the excellent manner in which the affair was handled. When the feast of good things to eat was disposed of, short talks were made by Messrs M. D. Billings, A. J. Smith, Sam L. Rogers, Wilson Brown, E. B. McCollum, and others. Mr. R. W. Shields, president of the Board of Trade, acted as toastmaster.

10 YEARS AGO

A large crowd attended the party at the Kelly Tea Thursday evening, given by the Kelly family to help raise funds for the Franklin library. Sixteen dollars and twenty-five cents was realized from the party. Mrs. Paul H. Ward was winner of the high jump for the women, and James Ward was high for the men.

Gymnasium Pledges Now Total \$2,582

Pledges amounting to \$2,582 by Highlands individuals for purpose of constructing a school gymnasium there were reported Monday by W. A. Hays, member of the finance committee.

Mr. Hays said that these returns were not complete and said that he felt that it was particularly encouraging in view of the fact that the committees for soliciting funds were appointed only last week.

Those making pledges, as reported by Mr. Hays, are:

F. H. Potts \$150, C. J. Anderson \$150, Mrs. C. C. Potts \$500, W. A. Bryson \$150, W. R. Potts \$150, C. C. Potts \$50, Tom Harrison \$200, W. H. Cobb \$200, S. E. Potts \$50, L. A. Edwards \$100, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Edwards \$50, Otto F. Summer \$100, Mrs. Henry G. Evans \$100, C. F. McKinney \$50, Bill Holt \$25, Harry Holt \$25, Fred Littleton \$25, Roy Potts \$25, Marshall Reese \$25, Mrs. Henry Whitmire \$10, Jimmy Crawford \$10, eleventh grade \$12, W. A. Hays \$400, and J. A. Hodges \$25.

Funds are being solicited throughout Highlands township by committees appointed by the Highlands district school committee.

In order that every person interested in contributing to the construction of the building be given a chance to contribute, Highlands school children have volunteered to write letters to assist in contacting all possible contributors.

Since all the children are not expert typists, the committee asked anyone receiving a letter containing an error to overlook the mistake and remember that "the spirit was willing even if the fingers did not strike the right keys."

Earl Munday Dies Here Following Short Illness

Harry Earl Munday, 56, died last Wednesday at his room at "Dixie Hall" where he stayed. His death came following a brief illness.

Mr. Munday, a native of Franklin, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Munday, members of a pioneer family of this community. His father was one of the town's first merchants.

Funeral services were held Friday at 2 o'clock at the Bryant funeral home, with the Rev. J. H. Brendall, pastor of the Franklin Methodist church, conducting the services. Burial followed in the Franklin cemetery.

Pallbearers were Dr. Frank Justice, C. N. Dowdie, Harry Thomas, B. L. Sherrill, T. W. Angel, Jr., and Lee Barnard.

Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Claude Clayton, and two grandchildren, of Tupelo, Miss.; four sisters, Mrs. J. C. Brown and Mrs. James A. Fowler, of Knoxville, Tenn.; Mrs. Louise Carter, of Franklin, and Mrs. Ethel Ray, of Dallas, Texas; and one brother, Boyce C. Munday, of Hollywood, Fla.

Funeral arrangements were handled by the Bryant funeral home.

Franklin School To Have Baseball Team This Spring

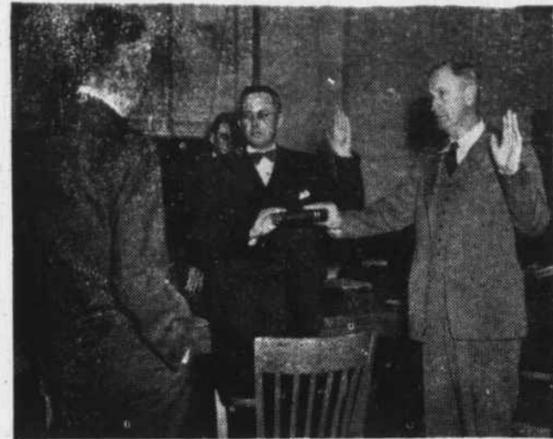
For the first time in several years, Franklin high school plans to field a baseball team this spring.

Due to the fact that there has not been a high school team for several years, Coach Frank Plyler is not sure just what this year's prospects are, but local sports enthusiasts feel that Franklin should have a better than average team with an especially strong pitching staff.

Harley Moore Stewart and Furman Corbin are both counted on to do plenty of pitching, having had experience hurling for local amateur nines.

One of the problems facing Coach Plyler is equipping this year's teams. If any local merchants or business firms wish to assist by furnishing uniforms, it will be greatly appreciated. Mr. Plyler said. He added that the uniforms would be kept at the school and would become the property of the athletic department, to be used from year to year.

Board Members Take Oath



LOCAL MAN SWORN IN—A. B. Slagle (right), Macon County man who recently was appointed to membership on the State Board of Agriculture, is pictured here as he took the oath of office in Raleigh last Friday. Left to right in the photo are Justice M. V. Barnhill, of the North Carolina supreme court, who administered the oath, David Townsend, of Rowland, sworn in as a new member of the board at the same time, and Mr. Slagle.

Polio Drive In Macon To Start Today

The annual March of Dimes campaign will get under way in Macon County today (Thursday), with J. H. Stockton, of Franklin, county director, and Mrs. Jack Brockway, of Highlands, co-director for the Highlands community.

Funds raised in the campaign will be used for the work of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis—the fight against polio, and to repair the crippling ravages of that disease.

The county's 1948 quota is \$1,620. Last year's quota of \$1,215 was oversubscribed by several hundred dollars.

Letters are being sent to citizens throughout the county, with a view to giving all an opportunity to contribute, Mr. Stockton said. Each letter is accompanied by a special check the donor may fill out, or bills may be clipped to the check and sent in the self-addressed, stamped envelope inclosed in each letter. All checks should be made to Claude Bolton, treasurer.

In addition, coin cards for the use of pupils are being distributed. —Continued on Page Eight

HEADS COLLEGE CLUB

Miss Ivadell Norton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mann B. Norton, of Franklin, Route 2, recently was selected president of the Home Economics club of Western Carolina Teachers college at Cullowhee. Miss Norton's major is home economics. Miss Norton is also president of the Wesley club, a religious organization on the campus.

P. T. A. To Meet

Monday at Agricultural Building

The Franklin Parent-Teacher association will hold its January meeting Monday night at 7:30.

The meeting will be held at the Agricultural building.

Mrs. Giles W. Cover, of Andrews, former member of the lower house of the North Carolina general assembly, will be the guest speaker.

86 In This County Getting Social Security Benefits

Eighty-six persons in Macon County are receiving social security benefits, according to an announcement by D. W. Lambert, manager of the Western North Carolina field office of the Social Security Board.

Of this number, 60 are women or children, so that only two out of every five recipients are men.

Mr. Lambert pointed out that factors which contribute to the low number for this county, as compared with the higher percentage of recipients in industrial areas, are the facts that, under the existing law, agricultural employment, self-employed persons, government workers, school teachers, and all other public employees are excluded from coverage.

He added that many Western North Carolina people who are qualified for benefit pay-

CRAFT CLASSES GET UNDER WAY

Miss Barr Gets Center On Cartoogechaye In Operation

Craft classes at the Nonah craft center on Cartoogechaye opened last week under the direction of Miss Francis Barr, who has had several years' experience at the Penland craft center in this type of work.

Miss Barr said that regular classes would be opened at 10 o'clock each week day morning, and that during the late afternoon classes would be held for teachers and high school pupils.

All persons who are interested in craft training are asked to come and discuss plans with Miss Barr.

Particular attention will be paid to hand weaving.

Jack Taylor Dies At Elkins, W. Va.; Plan Rites Friday

Jack C. Taylor, 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hood Taylor of East Franklin, and a former Macon County resident, died Tuesday in a hospital in Elkins, W. Va., after an illness of two weeks. Death resulted from meningitis.

Mr. Taylor, who was employed on construction work in Elkins, was married to Miss Mildred Franklin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Franklin, of Franklin, Route 4, December 6, 1942.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Holly Springs Baptist church, with the Rev. Charles E. Parker, pastor of the Franklin Baptist church, and the Rev. D. P. Grant, pastor of the Franklin Methodist circuit, conducting the service. The body is expected to arrive in Franklin Thursday.

Survivors are the widow and two small daughters, Jackie Sue and Judy; the parents; one brother, Willard, of Tallulah Falls, Ga.; the maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Cole Brooks, of Franklin.

Funeral arrangements will be handled by Bryant funeral home.

Place \$1,000 Bond In Education Fund

Smoky District Is Winner Of Scouters' Cup For Sixth Time

For the sixth time in seven years, Scouters (adults who assist in sponsoring the local Boy Scout work) from the Smoky Mountain district won the large silver cup which is given each year at the annual conference of Scouters from the Daniel Boone Council.

The cup is given to the group which has the largest percentage of attendance, with credit given for the distance traveled.

Thirteen persons from Franklin were among the group of more than 50 people from this district who attended the conference in Asheville Monday night.

Those attending were the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Zachary, Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Emory Hunnicutt, Bobby Porter, James Hauser, J. D. Alsop, E. W. Renshaw, W. L. Nothstein, and Rufus Snyder.

EVANS CHOSEN AS RED CROSS CHAPTER HEAD

Succeeds Parker; 1947 Fund Drive Quota To Be \$2,230

The Rev. Hoyt Evans was elected chairman of the Macon County chapter of the Red Cross, at a meeting of the chapter's executive committee Tuesday night. Mr. Evans, who is pastor of the Franklin Presbyterian church, succeeds the Rev. Charles E. Parker, who resigned.

Mr. Parker explained to the committee that his time is too full to permit him to devote the necessary attention to Red Cross work, and asked to be relieved. The committee then chose Mr. Evans to fill the unexpired term.

It was announced that Mrs. Louise Blaine Gray, who was elected secretary of the chapter at the recent annual meeting, was unable to serve, and the committee named Mrs. Mary Jo Sloan to serve as chapter secretary, in addition to her duties as executive secretary of the chapter's executive committee.

Mrs. Sloan announced that the chapter's quota for the fund drive, set to start March 1, has been received, and is \$2,230. This is slightly below last year's quota of \$2,410.

Grant and Parker Head Overseas Relief Drive In Macon

Appointment of the Rev. D. P. Grant, pastor of the Franklin Methodist circuit, and the Rev. Charles E. Parker, pastor of the First Baptist church, as co-chairmen for the Overseas Relief drive in Macon County was announced this week by the North Carolina Council of Churches, which is sponsoring a state-wide "Fill a Ship With Friendship" campaign, January 25 to 31.

Mr. Grant and Mr. Parker will organize the county for collection of clothing, bedding, shoes, and household goods for shipment through Church Work Services, official Protestant overseas relief agency.

The Macon County chairmen said collection plans have not yet been completed but that a place of deposit for all items will be announced next week.

Materials will go from here to New Windsor, Md., where they will be packed for shipment.

During the year just ended, 3,712,764 pounds of goods were processed at the Church World Service Center located there.

It was said that all gifts will be channeled through Church World Services to the destitute overseas. He added that distribution will be on a basis of need, without reference to religion, race, or politics.

Scrap Iron War Award Interest Will Aid Young People

The \$1,000 war bond earned by the people of Macon County for gathering the most scrap iron on a per capita basis during the wartime scrap drives will be placed as a part of the educational fund of the Macon Memorial Association, it was announced this week.

This educational fund has as its purpose offering assistance to the sons or daughters of veterans of the first World war.

The decision was reached at a called meeting of the Macon County Scrap Iron committee last Saturday. All members present voted to adopt the motion, made by James L. Hauser and seconded by J. I. Vinson.

Mr. Hauser's motion is as follows:

"I move that the bond earned by the people of Macon County as a reward for gathering scrap iron be placed as a part of the educational fund of Macon County Memorial Association, the principal of which shall be kept invested and the interest to be loaned by the trustees to worthy young men and women of Macon County for the purpose of obtaining a higher education."

A member of the committee explained that the benefits from the bond would be the same as those applying to the Memorial Association, except that these benefits will be open to all young people, instead of just to the descendants of veterans of World War 1.

Members present at the meeting were S. W. Mendenhall, chairman, Mrs. Florence Sherrill, secretary, J. L. Hauser, Roy Mashburn, Gilmer A. Jones, and J. I. Vinson. W. H. Cobb, of Highlands, was absent.

Cobb Heads C. Of C. At Highlands

W. H. Cobb was elected as president of the Highlands chamber of commerce at a meeting held Tuesday at the Highlands drug store.

Members of the board of directors, chosen to work with Mr. Cobb, include W. R. Potts, retiring president, Dr. William A. Matthews, Charles J. Anderson, W. A. Hays, and R. B. Dupree.

The secretary and treasurer will be named by the directors at a later meeting.

At Tuesday night's meeting, which was marked by much interest, plans were outlined for an active chamber year.

Senior Boy Scouts Do Thinning Work For Forest Service

Ten members of Franklin's senior Boy Scout troop are adding in Western North Carolina's forestry program by doing a thinning operation for the Nantahala National Forest on the white pine plantation in Poplar Cove, on the east side of the Nantahala mountains.

Under the technical supervision of W. L. Nothstein, the group worked all day December 31, and camped overnight in the plantation that night, but were forced to suspend operations the next day on account of bad weather. They will finish the job on week-ends, it was said.

The local forest office provides transportation and subsistence, and officials report that the boys were delighted to find that "K" rations were a part of the subsistence furnished.

The Weather

Temperatures and precipitation for the past seven days, and the low temperature yesterday, as recorded at the Coweta Experiment station, follow:

Day	High	Low	Precip.
Wednesday	50	18
Thursday	59	17
Friday	58	43
Saturday	47	33
Sunday	44	9
Monday	50	25
Tuesday	43	33	1.59
Wednesday	14