

Do Your Part to Keep These Figures Down!

The Franklin Press

The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE LIBERAL INDEPENDENT

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FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1948

\$2.00 PER YEAR

108 REGISTER HERE FOR VOTE ON BEER, WINE

Issue To Be Decided Feb. 14; Saturday Challenge Day

A total of 108 persons in Franklin township had registered for the county-wide beer and wine election February 14, when the registration books closed Saturday, it was announced.

This compares with a total township registration of about 2,500.

Registration figures for other townships in the county were not available yesterday.

Of the 108 new registrants—persons whose names were not already on the general election books—61, or more than half, registered last Saturday.

Saturday, February 7, will be challenge day, and the election, to determine whether legal sale of beer and wine shall be outlawed in this county, will be held following Saturday. The voting will be at the regular polling places throughout the county.

The election was called by the county board of election, following presentation of a petition bearing the names of 15 voters of Macon County voted in the 1944 general election.

Macon Historical Society Will Hold Meet Monday Night

The Macon County Historical society will meet Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gilmer A. Slagle.

A program of historical interest is being arranged.

Persons interested in the society are invited. Harry Slagle, president.

Ill From Kerosene

Irley Jean McDowell, two-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John McDowell, of Cullasaja, was admitted to Angel clinic Wednesday afternoon, suffering from the effects of drinking a quantity of kerosene earlier in the afternoon. The kerosene, in a cup, was believed to have been mistaken for the child for water.

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

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK James Winsted bid off the Philip Guyer farm on Iotia last Monday at \$1,670. It was probably bid off for Doc Bardard and Bird Collins, who are in Colorado.

Last Wednesday at noon as Tom Porter was driving R. L. Porter's team up the street, they started to run away from opposite Mrs. Robinson's dwelling. In front of Mr. Johnston's dwelling, Tom jumped out behind, getting a pretty hard fall. One horse was hurt a little, but Tom was not hurt.

25 YEARS AGO The material for the plate glass window for W. L. McCoy's handsome new business building on Main street arrived this week and workmen are now busy putting the finishing touches on the structure. It is expected that the three ground floor store rooms will be ready for occupancy by March 1st.

At a meeting of the board of aldermen held last Saturday night the board agreed to give \$100 to help pay the expense of grading and putting in proper shape the athletic field near the new high school building.

10 YEARS AGO A political campaign in this county got under way with the announcement of L. Houk for state representative in the 33rd district. Patton to succeed as representative in the assembly.

The Artesian well which has been drilled for the town of Franklin assures for the town an adequate supply of water for a long time to come—probably ten years. (Excerpt from local paper.)

Sloan Retires After 32 Years As Mail Carrier

After nearly a third of a century as a rural mail carrier, Harold T. Sloan retired January 31.

Mr. Sloan was the oldest employe, in point of service, of the Franklin post office, and he had carried the mail longer than any one in the history of the office here. He served under five postmasters—W. W. Jones, Charles L. Ingram, Sam L. Franks, John E. Rickman, and T. W. Porter.

On the occasion of his retirement, he was presented a handsome Parker 51 pen by the post office staff.

Mr. Sloan's six-day-a-week service covered a period of 31 years, seven months. The only break was during World War I, when he was on leave of absence for army service, which included duty in France.

Following his graduation from the University of North Carolina and a year and half as a teacher—at Highlands and at Iotia—he joined the postal service June 1, 1916, and was carrier on Route 3 for 29 years. About three years ago, he transferred to the shorter Route 2.

When he took it over, Route 3 was 27 miles in length; three years ago, when Mr. Sloan transferred, it had been extended to 62 miles, serving some 4,000 patrons. Yet, due to improvement in roads and transportation methods, he could cover the 62 miles and serve the far larger number of patrons in about half the time.

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HAROLD T. SLOAN

it took him to make his rounds in 1916.

In the early days, the mail was taken by buggy, with the carriers resorting to horseback travel in severe weather. They reported at the post office at 7 a. m., started on their routes

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EXTEND POLIO DRIVE TO FEB. 7

Bad Weather Cited; This County \$400 Short Of Its Quota

The infantile paralysis fund campaign has been extended until February 7, J. Horner Stockton, fund chairman, announced Tuesday.

Mr. Stockton made the announcement after receiving a telegram from Governor R. Gregg Cherry informing him that the campaign would be continued, state-wide, for an additional week.

The text of Governor Cherry's telegram is as follows:

"Due to severe weather conditions in the state during past ten days progress of March of Dimes has been seriously hampered, therefore, campaign period in North Carolina will continue through Saturday, February 7, so that every county organization may have an opportunity to bring drive to successful conclusion. God speed you in efforts for this good cause. R. Gregg Cherry, Governor of North Carolina."

Mr. Stockton said that he hoped that this additional week would enable Macon County to go over the top, but that every person who desires to contribute must do so this week, because Monday the fund was still \$400 short of the \$1620 goal.

Mr. Stockton expressed gratification that the time has been extended, because he said he felt that every person who wishes to contribute should be contacted, but that this had not been possible, due to the bad weather.

Education Board To Meet Monday With Architect

Last Monday's monthly meeting of the county board of education was postponed until next Monday, due to the fact that Lindsay Gudger, of Asheville, architect for the proposed school buildings, was unable to get here, according to an announcement by Gordon Moore, board chairman.

Mr. Gudger will be here next Monday, at which time the board will seek information concerning building costs for the proposed program.

Commissioners Transact Only Routine Business

At its meeting Monday, with all members present, the Macon County board of commissioners approved payment of several bills and transacted other routine business.

A petition requesting that a small stretch of road in the Hickory Knoll community be placed on the state highway system for maintenance was read, approved, and forwarded to officials in Raleigh.

Macon Boy Leads Area With Corn Yield Of 158.7

Fred Deal, 13-year old Macon County 4-H club boy, won first honors at last Saturday's Farmers Federation 100-bushel Corn club dinner in Asheville.

Young Deal, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Deal, grew 158.7 bushels of hybrid corn on an acre of his father's Cat Creek farm.

He was awarded the \$10 first prize for the largest yield in Western North Carolina, and a \$6 prize for the largest yield in his county.

Pointing out that this probably is the largest corn yield ever obtained in the mountain region, and that this county's average yield is only about 30 bushels, County Agent S. W. Mendenhall remarked that "Fred has certainly given the grown-up farmers of Macon County a challenge."

Student Held Up, Robbed Of \$500, Car

L. C. Nix, of Satolah, Ga., who is a student at the University of Georgia, was held up and robbed of his automobile and \$500 in cash at a spot near the North Carolina-Georgia, line on the Highlands-Dillard highway, last Friday night.

Pritchard Smith, Jr., local highway patrolman, who was called to the scene by Grover Wilson, sheriff of Rabun county, reported he was held up by two armed men after he was forced to stop his car, due to the road being blocked.

Mr. Smith said Wednesday that he had not learned of any developments in the case. He added that the robbery was very similar to the one which took place near there on December 28, when Olin Dryman, Highlands policeman, was robbed of his car and \$31 in cash.

No arrests have been made in connection with either hold up.

Reports He Was Robbed; Police Says It's Fake; Now He's One In Jail

Because he is alleged to have reported a robbery that never occurred, Charlie Johnson, of Highlands, is being held in the Macon County jail.

Shortly after noon Tuesday, Jack Lunsford, highway patrolman at Highlands, received a call, reporting a robbery by armed men, at a point just outside Highlands. Arriving on the scene, he said, he found Mr. Johnson, who reported he had been fixing a toy gun for a boy in his shop there when three armed men entered and took a

DEATH CLAIMS GEORGE M'GEE

Rites For Well Known Highway Employee To Be Thursday

George W. McGee, 58, well known state highway commission employe, died Wednesday morning at 8:30 o'clock at Angel hospital.

Mr. McGee, who had been in ill health for some time, was taken to the hospital ten days ago, suffering from an acute heart condition.

Funeral services will be held this (Thursday) afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Mount Zion Methodist church, in the Cartoogechaye community. Mr. McGee's pastor, the Rev. Charles E. Parker, and the Rev. J. H. Brendall, Franklin Methodist pastor, and Mrs. R. H. Hull, pastor of the Mount Zion church, will conduct the service.

Active pallbearers will be George Byrd, Jim McCall, Carl Slagle, Bob Porter, Gordon Moore, and Herbert McGlamery.

Serving as honorary pallbearers will be the following state highway employes: Harry Higgins, Carl Baldwin, Joel Dalton, L. T. Gillespie, J. L. Hicks, Gene L. Jacobs, Sam R. Jacobs, Elmer K. Johnson, Fred C. Jones, Grover Lewis, James M. Love, Robert M. Morgan, Harold G. Moore, Lawrence Myers, Frank J. Phillips, James E. Smart, George T. Stalcup, Frank Stiles, Lee Tallent, Glenn H. Tallent, James G. Thompson, B. G. Waldrop, R. T. Womack, and Tom Johnson.

"Uncle George", as he was known to hundreds of Macon County persons, was a native of this county, having been born February 14, 1890, the son of Charles and Mrs. Jennie Potts McGee.

While never a seeker of political office, he long had been active in the county's political affairs, and perhaps knew personally more people throughout the county than any one else.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Anna Setser McGee; three daughters, Mrs. R. D. Carson, Mrs. Glenn Hastings, and Miss Kate McGee, all of Franklin; and one brother, Elbert McGee, of Cleveland, Tenn.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Bryant funeral home.

Rail Service Interrupted By Wreck, Resumed Here

Rail service was resumed yesterday (Wednesday) at noon on the Tallulah Falls railway between Clayton and Franklin. All traffic over this route had been discontinued since last Thursday, due to a train wreck just south of Prentiss.

The wreck which happened near a high trestle, was caused by a defective rail. Three freight cars plunged over the embankment, but no one was injured, according to R. G. Be-shars, local station agent.

Mail and express service had been maintained this week, but no freight was delivered until the first train arrived yesterday at noon.

Dr. McCutcheon Heads Language Association

Dr. Roger P. McCutcheon, dean of the graduate school of Tulane university, recently was named president of the South-Central Modern Language association, it has been learned here. Dr. McCutcheon has a summer home in the Cartoogechaye community, and he and members of his family have many friends here.

Aldermen Vote To Dig Another Well

Says Forest Growth Data 'Misleading'

The statement, frequently made recently by lumbermen, that the United States is growing timber as fast as it is cutting it is misleading, in the opinion of John H. Stone, of Atlanta, regional U. S. forester, and former supervisor of the Nantahala National Forest.

Mr. Stone, interviewed while here the latter part of last week on an inspection trip, said it is true a Forest Service survey made in 1945 showed that 97.9 of the total forest timber is in process of being replaced by present growth, but explained that not all of this new growth is, or ever will be, fit for saw timber. Many trees, he said, due to non-conformities in growth and other physical defects, never will make saw logs; furthermore, many of the trees included in the 97.9 figure are too young to be classed as saw timber—they will not be saw timber for years.

Likening the forests to a huge factory in which many of the articles are on their way to becoming finished products but are still in the process of manufacture, Mr. Stone emphasized that a tree cannot be classed as saw timber until it has reached its growth.

Turning to the local situation, Mr. Stone referred to the conclusion of experts employed by companies dealing in acid wood, to the effect that the Western North Carolina acid wood supply will be virtually gone in five years.

The economic repercussions from the loss of this payroll will not be as severe as many persons fear, Mr. Stone believes. When the time comes, he believes, commercial users of acid wood will turn to other types of wood, such as oak. Furthermore, by the time the acid wood is gone, additional saw timber, grown during the period, will be available, since the forests are now maintained under a supervised cutting program designed to gradually increase the amount of timber available.

The regional forester spoke highly of the forest work being done here, and remarked that the only hydrological laboratory—for the measurement of rainfall and water flow—at high altitudes in Eastern America is that at the Coweta experiment station.

Mr. Stone was accompanied to Franklin by C. E. Clapp, forest agriculturist, of Atlanta, and C. E. Gatezer, of Forest Region 9 (in the midwest), who is making a study of forest methods in this section. Mr. Gatezer at one time was with Ritter Lumber company on operations in Western North Carolina.

MILLION FOR ADVERTISING

Florida has appropriated \$1,000,000 for state advertising next year.

PLAN TOURIST SCHOOLS

The Oregon Advertising club is sponsoring establishment of tourist schools throughout the country to spell out to communities how to best entertain vacationists.

READY FOR 1948 SEASON

The motor court being constructed by the Cherokee Nation at Cherokee is expected to have 18 units in operation for the 1948 season. The restaurant attached also is due for opening then.

The Weather

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

Table with 3 columns: High, Low, Prec. Rows for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday.

Contract Let; Work Will Start Soon; Site Yet To Be Chosen

The Franklin board of aldermen has decided to dig another town well, and passed a motion, at its meeting Monday night, to give the contract to the Gainesville Well Drilling company. The action was taken without a dissenting vote.

W. C. Burrell, who made the motion, stated that he felt that "we should get a well to prevent last summer's condition happening again". L. B. Phillips, who seconded the motion, said he agreed, and added that he felt that the work should be started not later than April 15.

Terms of the contract agreed upon with E. Lawrence, representative of the Gainesville company, are \$4.50 per foot, including casing for the first 500 feet, and \$5.50 per foot for the second 500 feet.

Mr. Lawrence added that there will be a charge of \$6 per hour for the test pump, after the well is finished, for whatever testing time the board requests.

After being questioned by board members, he said that his company would be able to go to work here in 30 to 35 days, unless his operators become sick or weather conditions delay completing present jobs.

Site for the well has not yet been determined, but sites, at no cost to the town, have been offered by Harry Thomas and Dan Bryson on property in East Franklin.

Most of the remainder of the meeting was spent in a discussion of the problems of delinquent water bills and parking meter violations.

Board members pointed that there is an order on record that persons who are delinquent in paying their water bill shall be cut off.

Chief of Police C. D. Baird asked the board to pay at least part of his telephone bill, since the phone was used for police calls more than private business. He added that he thought people should be able to call the police at all times, and said he felt the town should pay at least part of the cost of maintaining this telephone.

Following considerable discussion, during which three board members—Mr. Burrell, Mr. Phillips and E. J. Whitmire—favored the erection of booth containing a phone near the center of town, the matter was dropped. Mayor T. W. Angel, Jr., raised the question several times as to where such a booth could be placed.

Four Macon Students In College Play

Four Macon County students at Western Carolina Teachers college, Cullowhee, have roles in Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer prize play, "Our Town", which will be presented on the college campus Thursday evening, February 12, by the Western Carolina Players. Freda Arnold is playing as "Rebecca Gibbs"; Frank I. Murray, Jr., plays the part of "Joe Crowell"; Don Cabe plays "Howie Newsome"; and Clayton Ramsey has the role of a baseball player.

Miss Arnold is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Arnold, of Franklin. She is a transfer student from Woman's college, Greensboro, and has attended Brevard Junior college. This is her first dramatic role on the Western Carolina college stage.

Frank Murray is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank I. Murray of Franklin. He has been active in dramatics since he entered college. He played in another Wilder play—"Skin of our Teeth"—and has been advertising manager for the Players this year. He is staff photographer for The Western Carolinian, and production manager of the Radio club.

Don Cabe, of Otto, is a veteran Western Carolina player; he played Death in the fall production, "Death Takes a Holiday", and had leading parts in

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