

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

KILLED 2
INJURED 9

Do Your Part to Keep These Figures Down!

The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

So you think you are educated? Then let an eight-year old start asking you questions.

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FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1948

TEN PAGES

\$13,892 BEER TAX FOR YEAR RECEIVED HERE

Refunds To County, Two Towns Less Than Half Total Anticipated

Macon County and the towns of Franklin and Highlands have received from the state checks totaling \$13,892.43, as their share of the beer taxes collected during the year ending September 30.

The amounts were: Macon County, \$12,291.90; town of Franklin, \$1,099.60; town of Highlands, \$500.93. The total is less than half of the amount that had been anticipated, on a basis of payments to the county and two towns about a year ago.

At that time, the three governmental units received a total of \$8,139.47 for the quarter July 1 through September 30. On the same ration, the total for a year would have been approximately \$32,000.

No explanation of the relatively small amount received for the year was available here.

The refunds to the local governmental units followed a 1947 statute doubling the tax on beer and wine, and providing for refunding of approximately half of the total collected to those counties and towns in which the sale of beer and wine was legal.

This county has voted out both beverages, and the effective date has been fixed by court order for midnight, December 15. Presumably, the county and two towns a year hence will receive their proportionate share of the revenue collected during the period October 1 through December 15 of this year.

Dr. A. J. Ritchie, Rabun Gap School Founder, Dies At 80

Dr. Andrew Jackson Ritchie, widely known as the founder of the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee school, just across the line in Georgia, died at his home in Clayton Tuesday night of last week. He was 80 years of age.

Dr. Ritchie, who was a graduate of the University of Georgia and of Harvard university, served the Rabun Gap institution for 40 years as president, and at the time of his death was president-emeritus.

A book-length history of Rabun county, written by Dr. Ritchie, recently was published.

Do You Remember ... ?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

On Thursday evening the Walhalla mail boy's mule became frightened at some hogs by the roadside. The mule ran up the mountainside and in his wild run the saddle girth broke and the rider was thrown to the ground; the mule continued to run, but lost his foothold on some loose rocks and fell over a cliff and was killed. The mail boy came in with the mail, but was considerably bruised by his mishap.

25 YEARS AGO

Charles Crawford Polindexter, who is a student at the University of North Carolina, will close his brilliant football career when Carolina plays the University of Virginia there Thanksgiving. He began his football career as a freshman and has played in every game since. He holds the unheard of record of never having to call time or have a substitute for injuries during his entire athletic career.

10 YEARS AGO

A total of approximately 871 men employed on various WPA projects in Macon County were laid off last Friday, and the area WPA offices in Franklin have no information as to when work will be resumed, according to a statement made to a Press representative Tuesday. It is expected that the lay-off will be of short duration.

Firm Buys, Will Develop Whiteside Mountain; Plan Road To Top, Parking Area

Famed Whiteside Mountain, near Highlands, has been purchased by a newly formed corporation, for the purpose of developing it into a scenic attraction, with a motor road to the top, where a parking area will be maintained, it was announced this week.

The new corporation is Whiteside Mountain, Inc. Incorporators are W. Frank Lewis, who is the manager of High Hampton inn, at Cashiers, Richard G. Jennings, of Cashier, and Dr. William A. Matthews, of Highlands. Mr. Lewis is president, Mr. Jennings vice-president, and Dr. Matthews secretary and treasurer of the corporation. Some 10 or 15 business men of Highlands and

elsewhere are stockholders.

The 160-acre tract was bought from J. T. Powell, of Canton, and the I. H. Powell estate.

Whiteside Mountain, a geological fault, in the past has been a "hikers paradise". Yet after year its three-quarter mile high sheer rock cliff, said to be the highest in Eastern America, and the magnificent views from its summit have attracted nature lovers from all over the country. But they had to hike to get there.

Trails approaching from the south end of the mountain lead across the precarious crest to the north end, to Devil's Court-

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First 3 Macon Men Drafted Under 1947 Act Leave For Camp

The first Macon County men to be inducted into the armed forces under the 1947 draft act left Franklin Tuesday.

Only three were in this first group. They are:

George Richard Williamson, 25, of the Cartoogechaye community; Bob Gray McClure, 24, whose home is on the Georgia road; and James Wilbert Waldrop, 24, of Prentiss.

They left here on the 7 a. m. bus for the induction station (the army recruiting station) at Greenville, S. C.

These three were among a group who went to Greenville in October for examinations.

Historical Body Elects Officers For Coming Year

Gilmer A. Jones was elected president of the Macon County historical society, at its annual meeting Monday night. He succeeds Mrs. Carl S. Slagle.

Other officers chosen are: Miss Laura M. Jones, vice-president; E. W. Long, re-elected treasurer; Miss Cecile Gibson, re-elected secretary; and Miss Lasse Kelly, who was re-elected, and Carl S. Slagle, addition directors.

Ed McNish, Miss Olive Patton, and Miss Frances Barr were appointed as program committee for the coming year.

Mr. Jones read the biography of Major N. P. Rankin, for whom the public square here is named, by his son, Ernest Rankin.

Also marking the meeting was a discussion of ways and means of preserving documents of local historical interest, the recollections of older citizens, and photographs of landmarks. Mr. McNish volunteered his services in making color films of landmarks still in existence.

About 20 persons attended the meeting.

Bob Parrish To Play In Optimist Bowl Game

Bob Parrish, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Parrish, of Franklin, Route 3, will participate in the Optimist Bowl game tomorrow (Friday) in Asheville Memorial stadium as a member of West squad.

Young Parrish was an outstanding tackle on this year's Franklin high eleven and is especially known for his aggressive, hard tackling, defensive play.

He is a senior in high school and was co-captain of this year's team.

Parrish is the third Franklin boy to be selected to participate in the Optimist bowl, which was inaugurated last year. Larry Cabe and Harley Moore Stewart, two of last year's standouts, were members of the squad last year.

C. N. (Joe) Dowdle, who suffered a heart attack the latter part of last week, is able to be out again.

COURT TO OPEN HERE MONDAY

Garland Faces Trial In Highlands Robberies

Trial of Bern Garland, held in a series of Highlands robberies, is expected to be a feature of the December term of Macon superior court, which will open Monday morning.

Judge George B. Patton, of Franklin, will preside, and Solicitor Thad D. Bryson, Jr., also of Franklin, will prosecute the criminal docket.

Whether James Floyd Phillips, alias Floyd L. Phillips, who was arrested here with Garland, will be brought here for trial was not definitely known. He is suffering from fractures of both ankles and a wrist received November 16 when he jumped from a second story window in a Little Rock, Ark. hotel in a vain effort to escape capture by postal inspectors. There is a question, too, as to whether federal authorities, who wanted him in connection with some 40 post office robberies, will surrender him to state officers for trial here.

Phillips and Garland and their wives were arrested here last summer in connection with the robbery of a number of Highlands business establishments. The two men, placed in the Bryson City jail for safekeeping, escaped August 21.

Garland was arrested in Cincinnati sometime ago, and is now in jail at Waynesville, awaiting trial at next week's term of court.

Depending On Prayer Alone Father Refuses Medical Aid For Sick Infant; Baby Dies

Because his father believed prayer is all that is necessary to cure illness, a 13-month old child died here last week without medical attention.

The baby, who had been ill two weeks, was said to have been suffering from measles, followed by pneumonia.

Neighbors, relatives, and others begged Lyman Ledbetter, well to do farmer of the Cartoogechaye community, to have a physician treat the child, but he turned a deaf ear to all their entreaties. Prayer was all-sufficient he insisted.

The child, Turner Daniel Ledbetter, died Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the home of his parents.

Several other children in the family were reported quite ill of measles but Mr. Ledbetter was said to have refused medical aid for them, also.

The infant's funeral was held at the Cartoogechaye Church of God at 11 a. m. Sunday, with the Rev. Clyde Burton, pastor, and the Rev. Jess Willard Shook officiating. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Survivors, in addition to the parents, include four sisters, Blanche, Essie Mae, Dorothy, and Harriet, and three brothers, Lawrence, Harry, and Charlie; the paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Ledbetter, of

HIGHLANDS MAN NAMED TO HEAD RABUN SCHOOL

Nacoochee Trustees Elect Skinner President

O. C. Skinner, of Highlands, Director of Natural Resources and Chairman of the Division of Mechanics and Industrial Arts at Berry Schools, Rome, Ga., will become President of Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School at Rabun Gap, Ga.

Skinner's appointment was announced Monday following a meeting of the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee trustees in Atlanta. He will succeed Dr. George C. Bellingrath, who resigned to become Dean of Presbyterian college.

George W. Woodruff, chairman of the board of trustees, praised Skinner's work in the educational field, pointing out he had been connected with three educational institutions over a period of 40 years. At Berry Schools for 24 years, he supervised mechanical instruction and maintenance of grounds and buildings. Before that, he was for 13 years principal and head of the mechanical instruction department at Richmond academy in Augusta. He was graduated from Alabama Polytechnic institute with honors.

12 Hunters Get 5 Deer In Second Forest Hunt

Five deer were killed by the 12 hunters participating in the second hunt conducted on the Standing Indian wild life management area last week-end. This brings the total kill to 12 by the 36 hunters plowed in the two week-end hunts, Forest Service officials said.

Two local men, Robert Fyrd and Glenn Holt, both killed eight-point bucks which weighed approximately 128 pounds each, woods dressed.

Other successful hunters were Ernest Lewis, of Sylva, with a 6-point 135-pound buck; Clyde Ballard, of Hendersonville, with an 8-point 136-pound buck, and John Ash, of Bryson City, with a 4-point 136-pound buck.

A third hunt will be staged on the Standing Indian wild-life management area today, tomorrow, and Saturday. This will conclude the deer hunting in the game preserve for this year.

A second state hunt, on non Forest Service land, however, will be held Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

Franklin, Route 1; and the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Nanie Anderson, also of Franklin, Route 1.

The funeral arrangements were directed by Bryant funeral home.

Mrs. E. L. McKee Dies Suddenly At Her Home In Sylva

Mrs. E. L. McKee, well known in Macon County for her interest in church and school problems, as well as for her political activities, died suddenly Saturday at her home in Sylva. Mrs. McKee had many personal friends here and was known to the general public for her appearances as a speaker at various meetings in this county.

The former Miss Gertrude Dill, of Dillsboro, she recently had been elected to her fourth term in the state senate.

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon at the Sylva Methodist church, and burial was in the Keener cemetery.

WILL HOLD FOOD SALE
The Auxillary of St. Agnes Episcopal church will hold a benefit food sale at the Nantahala Power and Light company first-floor office Saturday, starting at 10 a. m.



LT. GEORGE H. SETSER

Lt. Setser's Final Rites Held Monday

Final rites for 1st Lt. George H. Setser, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe F. Setser, of the Cartoogechaye community, who was killed in a plane crash in Italy, May 2, 1945, were held at the Mt. Zion Methodist church Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Officiating ministers were the Rev. J. C. Swain, former pastor of the church, of which Lt. Setser was a member, the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, and the Rev. William L. Sorrells.

The local post of the American Legion conducted the services at the grave, with the Rev. Hoyt Evans serving as chaplain. Don Allison and Cecil Parker were the honor guard, and Robert L. Porter and Horace Nolen were the color bearers.

Pallbearers were uncles: L. B. Phillips, W. R. Waldrop, Charles Waldrop, Lawrence Setser, Fred Slagle, and Dr. T. D. Slagle.

Survivors, in addition to his parents include three sisters: Mrs. Bob Sloan, of Franklin, Miss Jane Setser, of Brevard college, and Miss Margaret Setser, of Cartoogechays; two brothers, Mack Setser, of Bakersville, and Thomas Setser, of Cartoogechays; and the paternal grandmother, Mrs. W. A. Setser, and the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Henry Slagle, both of Cartoogechaye.

Funeral arrangements were directed by Bryant funeral home.

Lt. Setser, who was born December 7, 1923, was graduated from the Franklin High school and was a sophomore at Brevard college when he enlisted in October, 1942. He received his commission and pilot's wings in April, 1944, and was sent overseas in October of that year.

On his first mission, November 6, 1944, his plane was shot down over Yugoslavia, but he and members of his crew, by hiding in the daytime and traveling at night, managed to work their way back to their base in Italy, arriving there 18 days after being shot down.

Choral Groups To Appear On B. T. U. Program Monday

The simultaneous south-wide associational B. T. U. will meet with the First Baptist church here next Monday night.

Featured on the program will be choral groups from various churches over the country. The Rev. Paul Nix will have charge of the devotional, and the Rev. Charles E. Parker, pastor, will be narrator.

The Rev. J. Alton Morris, pastor of the First Baptist church, Murphy, will speak on the subject, "Found Faithful In Our Task."

Otto P. T. A. To Meet Next Monday At 1:30

A called meeting of the Otto P. T. A. is set for next Monday at 1:30 p. m. at the school, it has been announced by Mrs. Ed Henson, president. This will take the place of the regular December meeting, which would have been held the last Monday in the month, but which this month would fall during the Christmas holidays.

WILL ASK FUNDS FOR MORE HELP TO NEEDY AGED

Welfare Legislative Program Outlined At Area Meet

The 1949 North Carolina general assembly will be asked to appropriate enough additional funds to make possible grants to the needy aged in North Carolina that will average \$7.00 per month, instead of the present average of \$2.00. Dr. Ell N. Winston, state commissioner of public welfare, told the Western District Welfare conference in Asheville Tuesday.

Dr. Winston, in an address at the luncheon session of the 19-county meeting, outlined the legislative program that has been worked out by her department and the State Association of Welfare Superintendents.

Carl S. Slagle, chairman of the Macon County welfare board in his capacity as retiring chairman of the Western Welfare District, presided at both the morning and luncheon sessions, and introduced Dr. Winston. Mrs. Eloise Potts, Macon County welfare superintendent, was retiring district secretary.

Dr. Winston, who is the former Miss Ellen Black, native of Bryson City, in commenting on the request for more funds for old age assistance, explained that an average of \$35 per month really should be made available. About 48,000 are now receiving aid to the aged.

The state commissioner said her department and the superintendents' association also will ask the general assembly for:

Additional funds to make possible monthly grants to dependent children averaging \$21 per month, instead of the present \$14. At present there are about 30,000 children in this state receiving aid to the aged.

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Joe Lassiter Kills Himself In Asheville

Joe Spencer Lassiter, 23, of Franklin, was found dead in an Asheville hotel room Wednesday morning.

Dr. R. P. Terry, Buncombe county coroner, said it was a clear case of suicide.

Mr. Lassiter, the coroner said, had fastened his belt tightly about his throat, and then loped the belt over a hook in the door. He apparently had died of suffocation, Dr. Terry said, since the feet were touching the floor.

Mr. Lassiter, who had been selling insurance in Asheville for several months, registered at the downtown hotel at 5 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. He apparently had lain upon the bed while he smoked and read magazines, but the bed had not been slept in. Dr. Terry said he had been dead since about 9 o'clock Tuesday night.

No note of explanation was found.

The body, fully dressed, was discovered by a hotel porter at 8:10 o'clock Wednesday morning.

Franklin survivors of Mr. Lassiter include his widow, the former Miss Lucille Calloway, and a sister, Mrs. Kay Montague.

No funeral arrangements had been made Wednesday, but the family had arranged to have the body returned here.

The Weather

Temperatures and precipitation for the past seven days, and the low temperature yesterday, as recorded at the Coweeta Experiment station.

	High	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	59	42	.08
Thursday	60	25	T*
Friday	50	27	.00
Saturday	67	43	1.32
Sunday	52	46	2.04
Monday	47	40	1.95
Tuesday	48	24	.00
Wednesday	22	.00

*Trace
Total inches of rainfall 5.99