

Season's Greetings



The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

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!

VOL. LXIII—NO. 52

FRANKLIN, N. C., WEDNESDAY, DEC. 22, 1948

TWELVE PAGES

FINLEY, CALLED TO ARMY, QUILTS AS SCHOOL HEAD

Leaves Jan. 5; Houk
Expects To Fill
Post Shortly

W. H. Finley, principal of the Franklin school announced this week that he has received orders recalling him to duty with the U. S. army air forces, and that he has resigned as school principal.

Mr. Finley, who has held a reserve commission as major since his discharge from active duty in 1946, will return to army service January 5.

G. L. Houk, county superintendent of schools, said yesterday that steps are being taken to fill the vacancy, and that he expects the position will be filled before Mr. Finley has to leave Franklin.

Due to the fact that the vacancy occurs in the middle of the school year, it would be difficult to obtain a person from outside the county system, since all persons now teaching are under contract, Mr. Houk pointed out.

Persons now employed in the Macon County system who have the necessary certification to fill the position of principal of the school here are W. G. Newton, teacher in the Highlands school, O. F. Summer, principal at Highlands, and Ray Moses, teacher in the Otter Creek school.

Musical Program Set For Tonight At 7:30

A special program of Christmas music will be presented at the First Baptist church tonight. The service will open at 7:30 o'clock.

Do You Remember ...?

(Looking backward through
the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

On last Wednesday, December 21, Col. and Mrs. L. Howard of Smith's Bridge celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedded life at their home. There were present three persons who attended their wedding. They were: Mrs. Elizabeth Penland, Cecy Long, and Jr. Josh Bradley. Besides these were about 35 invited guests, including Rev. Campbell and family. Immediately following their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Howard settled where they now reside and have lived there ever since.

25 YEARS AGO

Saturday evening an enjoyable barbecue was given by Miss Elizabeth Deal and Mr. W. L. Deal at their home. Those present were: Mrs. L. A. Berry, and Mrs. C. L. Ingram, chaperones, Misses Lenwood and Margaret Ingram, Elizabeth, Angie, and Martha Deal, Myrtle Bolick, Mary and Ethel Berry, Messers Will and Weaver Elliot, Jack Cane, Walter Young, James Justice, Furman and Bonnie Berry, Marion Deal, Charles Ingram, Jr., and Astor Deal.

10 YEARS AGO

Preparations are about completed for the American Legion Christmas party for needy children to be given at the courthouse in Franklin next Saturday. The ladies of the Legion Auxiliary have made the bags which will be filled with fruits, candies, toys, etc., and everything is expected to be in readiness at the appointed time.

Says Parents Will Be Indicted If Children Do Not Attend School

The compulsory school law is going to be strictly enforced in Macon County, Mrs. Eloise G. Potts, county superintendent of public welfare, declared in a statement issued this week.

The parents of any child of school age who is not in school when classes are resumed after the Christmas holidays will face indictment proceedings, Mrs. Potts added, unless there is good cause for the child's absence.

The state law requires all children, between their seventh and sixteenth birthdays to attend school regularly during the school term. The penalty for violation of the law is fixed as a fine imposed upon the parent of not less than \$5 nor more than \$25. The law further provides for imprisonment of not more than 30 days for failure or refusal to pay the fine.

The law requires teachers and principals to report non-attend-

ance after due notice has been given to the parents, to the superintendent of welfare, and places the responsibility for prosecution upon the welfare superintendent.

Mrs. Potts' statement follows: "The North Carolina law requires me, as county superintendent of public welfare, to bring indictment proceedings against any Macon County parents whose children of school age do not attend school regularly, unless good cause for their absence can be shown."

"Starting the first of the year 1949, I shall enforce the compulsory school law in Macon County without favor or partiality. That law requires all children between the ages of 7 and 16 years to attend school regularly during the school term."

"Any parent of a child of compulsory school age who is reported to me by the school

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At 84, She Will Drive To Atlanta For Gift Opening

At 84, Mrs. Myra Allman plans to drive to Atlanta Christmas morning in time to have breakfast with her daughter, granddaughter, and great-grandchildren—and to see the children open their Christmas gifts.

Mrs. Allman, who suggested the trip, plans to leave with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Katenbrink, about 4 a. m. Saturday.

The three will remain in Atlanta until Monday, with another daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. and Mrs. Allman's grand-daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. John Crawford, and their children.

Busy Season Is Ahead For Local Quints

With 10 home games scheduled, the girls' and boys basketball teams of Franklin High school face a busy schedule in 1949.

Teams which will face the local aggregations on the home court are: Sylva, January 4; Nantahala, January 7; Cullowhee, January 11; Stecoah, January 14; Bryson City, January 18; Hayesville, January 25; Highlands, January 28; Cherokee, February 4; Stecoah, February 8; and Highlands, February 11.

Out of town games are scheduled on the following dates: With Sylva, January 2; Cherokee, February 1; Bryson City, February 18; and Murphy, February 22.

After getting off to a fast start with both the boys' and girls' teams winning over Murphy, both teams lost their next two games. In the Murphy contest the girls won by 24-16, while the boys won by a 31-23 margin.

In the next two games, the girls were defeated by Cullowhee, 27-18, and Nantahala, 37-12. The local boys took their worst defeat at the hands of Cullowhee by a 36-18 score, and then dropped a close game to Nantahala, 31-32.

Last night (Tuesday) the local teams played Hayesville on the Hayesville court.

JAIL FIVE HERE IN AUTO THEFT

4 Men, Woman Reported
To Have Criminal
Records

Four men and one woman were arrested in Franklin last Sunday night by State Highway Patrolman Pritchard Smith, Jr., and Sheriff J. P. Bradley on charges of having a stolen automobile in their possession.

The five persons all from out of state, were said by Patrolman Smith to have criminal records.

The arrest took place in front of Duncan Motor company, where the group had stopped. They were attempting to pawn an automobile tire to obtain gasoline to go to Chattanooga, Tenn.

Mr. Smith and Sheriff Bradley were driving by. Noticing the group and the flashy automobile, a 1946 two-tone Buick convertible, felt that the situation warranted investigation. After none of the occupants could produce title to the car, the law enforcement officials proceeded with further questioning and John Wolford, driver of the car, and said by Mr. Smith to be a New York city parole violator, admitted stealing the automobile, the officers said.

The other members of the quintet, Miss Blanche Dalpe, of Long Island, John Friedel, Baltimore, Md., Roer K. Chesser, Baltimore, and George J. Deenfeiler, Baltimore—denied any knowledge of the theft of the car, but the entire group is being held in the Macon County jail. A hearing will be held before a United States commissioner some time this week, Mr. Smith said.

During the questioning, Wolford placed the number of cars that he had stolen 75 or 80, but said he had been convicted only three times. Mr. Smith said the FBI had been called in on the case.

Midnight Service Will Be Held At St. Agnes

This year's annual midnight service at St. Agnes Episcopal church will start at 11:30 o'clock Christmas eve, with the rector, the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, in charge. The service will be marked by the celebration of the Holy Communion and the singing of carols.

CROWD OF 450 HEARS ANNUAL YULE CANTATA

29 In Chorus For Third
Christmas Music
Program

An attentive audience of approximately 450 persons crowded into the Franklin Methodist church Sunday night for the third annual Christmas cantata, presented by members of the choir of Franklin churches.

Every seat was taken and standing room was at a premium in the side aisles and at the rear of the auditorium, as the one-hour program opened promptly at 8 o'clock.

This year's performance was directed by Mrs. Clarence Henry, with Mrs. Gilmer A. Jones at the organ and Mrs. H. W. Cane as pianist. Twenty-nine voices were heard in the chorus.

Wearing white choir robes and carrying lighted candles, the participants entered the auditorium from the Sunday school department and marched down the center aisle singing, "O, Come, All Ye Faithful", an 18th century melody.

The program was divided into three groups of numbers.

In the first, taken from "Music of Bethlehem," by Holton, the entire choir sang "Ring Oh, O Song" and "Song of Hope"; the male chorus rendered "A King Shall Reign"; and the women's chorus concluded with "First Christmas Carol."

The second group opened with Adam's "O Holy Night," a vocal solo by Mrs. Henry. The choir sang Holton's "To Bethlehem Draw Near" and Keating's "We Fought Our Lord." Next, Mrs. R. S. Jones gave a reading, "When the King Came," by Cynthia P. Maus.

In the third group, the choir sang "Lullaby Hymn" and "The Music of the Bells," both by Holton, and three carols, "Gloria in excelsis Deo," "We Three Kings," and "The First Noel." Mrs. Jones read John Erskine's poem, "The Shepherd Speaks," and the choir sang "Music of Bethlehem."

The program closed with the benediction, pronounced by the church's pastor, the Rev. A. C. Gibbs.

Members of the choir were: Sopranos: Mrs. Betty Alexander, Mrs. Bill Bryson, Mrs. A. C. Gibbs, Mrs. Earl Harmon, Mrs. Donald Jones, Miss Harriett Murray, Mrs. Nobia Murray, Mrs. B. S. Philbrick, Miss Betty Sharitz, Mrs. Guy Sharitz, Mrs. Hyidah Shepherd, Mrs. Bob Sloan, Mrs. Reby Tessler, and Miss Esther Wallace.

Altos: Mrs. Prelo Dryman, Mrs. Hoyt Evans, Mrs. Neil Johnston, Miss Elizabeth Jones, Miss Lillian Jones, Mrs. Lucille Lassiter, Miss Dorothy Sloan, and Mrs. H. T. Sloan.

Tenors: Mac Duncan, Phil McCollum, Richard Sloan, and George Tessler.

Basses: E. J. Carpenter, the Rev. Hoyt Evans, and S. W. Mendenhall.

Schools In County To Close Thursday For Yule Holidays

Public schools throughout the Macon County system will close at the end of classes tomorrow (Thursday) for the Christmas holidays. Classes will be resumed Monday morning, January 3.

Contrary to the practice in the past, when schools in different localities took varying lengths of time for Christmas vacation, all the schools this year will start and end the holidays simultaneously.

Phone Firm Plans \$100,000 Program

Prize Beef
Brings \$773 At Auction
Of Packages

The slightly more than 100 packages of beef from Hayes Gregory's prize colt brought a total of \$773.90 at Saturday night's auction at the Slagle memorial, sponsored by the Franklin Rotary club.

The total weight was 557 pounds, so that the average was approximately \$1.39 per pound. Some of the steaks, however, sold for about \$3 per pound, notably the package of T-bone that, after spirited bidding, went to E. J. Whitmire for \$19.50.

The heaviest of the more than 30 buyers was W. C. Burrell, who purchases amounted to approximately \$167.

As a result of the sale, there not only was enough money to take care of the 75 cents a pound (on the foot) price guaranteed for the animal when it won first prize in Asheville, but there was approximately \$70 profit, which will go into the Rotary club's Memorial building furnace fund.

B. W. McGlamery was auctioneer. The package of T-bone steak offered as a prize went to Wiley Brown.

DRY VICTORY CELEBRATED

Parade, Meeting Mark
End Of Legal Beer
And Wine Here

Celebrating the end of legal beer and wine in this county, Macon County dries Saturday paraded through the business district and then held a meeting at the courthouse.

The observance came three days after the deadline on the sale of beer and wine here, which were voted out by margins of about 10 to 1 in the election last August 28.

The courthouse was filled for the program, held at 11 a. m., immediately after the parade. Judge George B. Patton presided, and the chief speaker was the Rev. Charles A. Parker, pastor of the First Baptist church. The Rev. William Sorrells and the Rev. Hoyt Evans led in prayer. Music was provided by the Sylva High school band.

The parade, led by the band formed at the Franklin school. The line of march was the Georgia highway to Palmer street, Palmer to its intersection with East Main, and East Main to the courthouse.

Yule Programs Planned By Union Sunday Schools

Special Christmas services at Union Sunday schools in this county have been announced as follows: Walnut Creek school, Friday at 10 a. m.; Rainbow Springs, Friday at 2 p. m.; Sloan's chapel, Friday at 7:30; Olive Hill, Saturday at 7; Salem Methodist church, Sunday at 2:30; and Friendship tabernacle, December 26 at 2:30.

DIME BOARD RAISES \$250

A total of \$250.25 was placed on the Lions club's dime board, kept open on the public square the last three Saturdays. The money will be used for purchase, by a club committee headed by Elbert Angel, to buy clothing for needy Macon County children.

Non-Crank Service Will Be Put In Here; Dial In Highlands

A \$100,000 expansion program that will provide the common battery (non-crank) type of telephone service for Franklin and will approximately triple the number of operators on duty here was announced this week by the Western Carolina Telephone company.

The program also calls for installation of dial systems in Highlands and Clayton, Ga., and improvements and extensions in other towns served by the telephone company, which has its headquarters in Franklin.

The announcement followed authorization by the N. C. Utilities commission last week which will permit the company to double its capital stock.

The plans also call for improvement and speeding up of long distance service out of Franklin. R. E. McKelvey, the company's general manager, said. After the cut-over to the new equipment, Franklin will be a toll center, which means that the operators in Franklin will handle long distance calls themselves, instead of passing them along to operators in Corneil, Ga., or some other town. Several direct circuits from Franklin to Asheville and Franklin to Atlanta also are planned.

While the equipment for Franklin, Highlands, and Clayton already is on order it will be about the first of May before the Franklin equipment will arrive and can be installed, and it probably will be sometime in 1950 before Highlands and Clayton are cut-over to the dial service, Mr. McKelvey said.

The new Franklin switchboard

Continued on Page Eight—

Subscribers To Get Next Week's Press On Friday

Next week's issue of The Press will be published 24 hours later than usual. The paper will be placed in the mail Thursday night, and should reach Macon County subscribers Friday morning.

As explained last week, the changes in publication schedule for the last issue before Christmas and the first after Christmas was decided upon in order to make possible a week's vacation for members of the staff.

PLAN PLAY, PAGEANT

A Christmas play and pageant will be given at the Iota Baptist church tomorrow (Thursday) night at 7:30 o'clock. The public is invited to attend.

PLAN YULE SERVICES

Special Christmas services will be held at Gillespie's chapel tomorrow (Thursday) evening at 6 o'clock, at Mt. Zion at 8 o'clock, and at Maiden's chapel Friday at 7 p. m.

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	68	54	.01
Thursday	65	55	.55
Friday	63	48	1.04
Saturday	44	34	.29
Sunday	51	35	.69
Monday	49	27	.00
Tuesday	20	.00

Total rainfall..... 2.40