

ALBERT RAMSEY, FARM AND CIVIC LEADER, DIES

Rites For Farm Home Supervisor Held Saturday

Albert L. Ramsey, Macon County supervisor for the Farm Home Administration, prominent farmer, and leader in the civic life of the county, died at Angel hospital early Thursday of last week. He was 55 years of age.

Always interested in better farming, he was a pioneer in the growing of alfalfa in this county, and built up on his farm in the Iotla valley what was said to be one of the largest herds of purebred Angus-Aberdeen cattle in Western North Carolina.

Ten years ago he joined the staff here of the Farm Security Administration, now the Farm Home Administration, and during the past decade had spent most of his time working with farmers who needed loans and supervision to get on their financial feet.

He long had served on the Macon County welfare board, and July 1 assumed the duties of president of the Franklin Rotary club. He was a former chairman of the county Democratic executive committee, and at the time of his death he was a director of the Farmers Federation and a steward of the Franklin Methodist church. He joined the Iotla church in early life, and at one time had been Sunday school superintendent and men's Bible class teacher there.

Mr. Ramsey suffered a serious heart ailment three years ago, but apparently had recovered. He became ill about 10 days before his death, and entered the hospital Wednesday morning of last week. Death was attributed to a heart condition, complicated by asthma.

A native of this county, he was the son of W. A. and Mrs. Rebecca West Ramsey. He held a law degree from the University of North Carolina, but never practiced that profession. He was a veteran of World War I.

Survivors include his widow, the former Miss Margaret Higdon; two sons, Lt. Albert L. Ramsey, Jr., who is situated at San Juan, Puerto Rico, and who came home in time for the funeral, on a 45-day leave, and Clayton Ramsey, who was graduated from Western Carolina Teachers college, Cullowhee, recently; and one sister, Mrs. A. L. McLean, of Asheville.

Funeral services were held at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon at the Franklin Methodist church, with the pastor, the Rev. A. C. Gibbs, and two former pastors, the Rev. J. H. Brendall, Jr., and the Rev. W. Jackson Honeycutt, officiating. Burial was in the Iotla Methodist church cemetery.

Pallbearers were Siler Slagle, John M. Archer, Jr., Henry W. Cabe, Terrell Parrish, Bayse Penland, and Harry Thomas.

Honorary pallbearers were members of the Franklin Rotary club.

Arrangements were under the direction of Bryant funeral home.

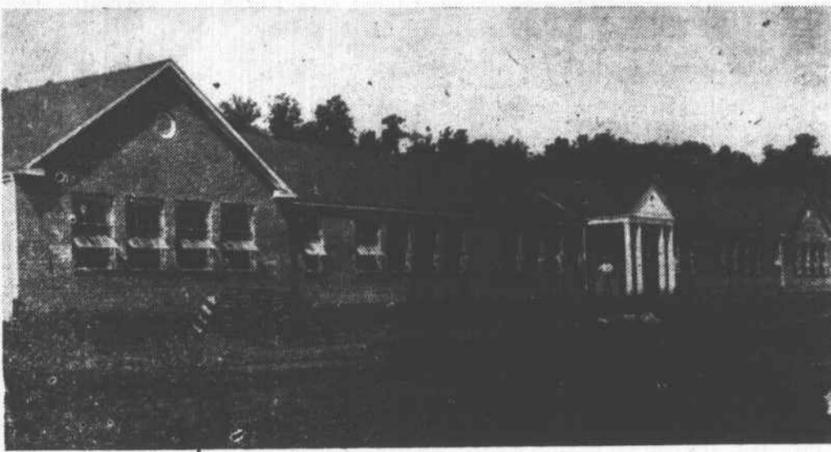
Do You Remember . . . ?
(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

A petition from over 300 citizens were laid before the county commissioners Monday, asking them to call an election for the citizens within a certain boundary to vote on the question of "Stock Law" or "No Stock Law". A counter petition of less than 200 was also filed.

Notwithstanding the weather last Wednesday the annual reunion of the Siler family was held at Mr. Albert Siler's, and about 120 of the connection were present together with several invited guests. This reunion or family meeting has been kept up for 48 years, and the family will have a semi-centennial in 1901.

New Cullasaja School Ready For Use



—Photo by Crisp Studio

Above is the new Cullasaja school, which will go into use with the opening of the Macon County schools this morning. The building, constructed at an estimated cost of \$70,000, contains 10 classrooms, auditorium, principal's office, first aid room, etc. Consolidating the schools formerly taught at Gold Mine, Pine Grove, Salem, Higdonville, and Mashburn's Branch, it will have 10 teachers, and will be the largest rural school in the county. The new structure is situated four and a half miles from Franklin, on the Highlands road.

Coweeta Forest, 7 Macon Men Will Be Paid Honor In Ceremony On Friday

The Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory will be presented a "Superior Service Award" from the U. S. Department of Agriculture in a ceremony to be held at the experimental forest, 12 miles from Franklin, tomorrow (Friday) afternoon.

At the same time, seven Macon County men who have been associated with the research program at Coweeta during the past 10 years will be presented "Letters of Commendation". The identity of the seven will not be announced until the presentation.

The award and letters will be presented by Nathan Koenig, of Washington, executive assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture.

This district's representative in congress, Monroe M. Redden, will serve as master of ceremonies, and speakers will include Dr. Harry Brown, chancellor of the University of Georgia, and Herbert Stone, of Atlanta, regional forester of the U. S. Forest Service, former supervisor of the Nantahala National Forest here.

Other notables expected to attend include Dr. I. T. Haig, director of the Southeastern Experiment Station, and representatives of the TVA, the U. S. Forest Service in Washington, Atlanta, and Franklin, and the Nantahala Power and Light company.

Arrangements have been made to take care of a crowd of 500 expected at the public ceremony, which is set for 2 p. m. It was emphasized that the general public is invited.

A tour of the watershed will immediately follow the ceremony.

Meanwhile, Coweeta drew national attention Monday when it was visited by approximately a score of forestry professors from universities from Maine to California.

Dr. Charles R. Hursh, chief of the division of watershed management and protection, Southeastern Forest Experiment Station, near Asheville, will accept the superior service award to be given the Macon County station tomorrow. Dr. Hursh, who spends about one-third of his time at Coweeta, has supervised the unique research being done there, for which the award is being given.

The award will read: "For outstanding research achievements regarding the relation of climate, soil, and forest vegetation to stream flow; the establishment of basic principles of hydrology and watershed management; the translation of research results into practical techniques of water resource management; the effective dissemination of research findings; and for loyalty, determination, and skill in developing and operating a major hydrologic laboratory."

Prior to the ceremony, an informal home-coming, starting at 10 a. m., will be held for all persons who have worked on

the area, both since it became an experimental forest and previously; it formerly was a CCC center.

While the award is primarily for the technical research that has gone on at Coweeta, the human elements of "loyalty, determination, and skill" are recognized, and E. A. Johnson, technician in charge, cited some instances of the loyalty both of employees and of people in the region.

He recalled the case of the employee, who, when the weather turned very cold during the night, brought his blankets to place over some freshly poured concrete to keep it from freezing. In June's flood, members of the labor crew reported long before they were due at work, because they knew they were needed to help save the roads from washing and to assist in collecting records on the flood. And last Easter Sunday, when a forest fire broke out, 50 people from the area—many of them sacrificing their Easter dinner—promptly reported as volunteers to help fight the blaze.

Members of the present staff, in addition to Mr. Johnson, are Geoffrey Greene, technician; Charles Shope, Don Cabe, and Charles Junior Curtis, rated as subprofessional men; and William Carpenter, Curt Chastain, Marvin Howard, and Floyd Thomas, members of the labor crew.

The experimental forest, embracing 5,600 acres and representing a land and equipment value of \$1,750,000, was established in 1934. It is unique in that it is the only station in the United States set up solely to do basic research in hydrology (water resources).

It was established as the result of a growing consciousness of the importance of water-for industry, for municipal water supplies, and with reference to the mutual dependence of water and vegetation.

Varied conditions—such as undisturbed forest, indiscriminate forest cutting, and cultivation—have deliberately been set up, and the results, in terms of stream flow, measured and studied. The water requirements of vegetation under varied conditions also have been studied.

The visit of the forestry experts to Coweeta Monday climaxed a two-week tour. They were shown over the area by Dr. Haig and Dr. Hursh. They expressed particular interest in a watershed in which the stream flow has been doubled, and in another which illustrates the damage done mountain streams by poorly laid out and maintained logging roads.

The group included representatives of the California school of forestry, Yale university, the University of Maine, the University of Minnesota, the University of Georgia, and E. W. Renshaw, supervisor of the Nantahala National Forest.

Position Left Open By Setser's Shift Still Is Unfilled

The position of highway maintenance supervisor for Macon and Jackson counties, which was made vacant by the recent transfer of Joe Setser to the position of supervisory foreman, still had not been filled yesterday morning, local highway officials said. Mr. Setser's transfer was effective August 22.

The new assignment given Mr. Setser, who has been with the State Highway commission for 26 years, entails less responsibility, and the transfer carried with it a cut in salary. He had held the position of maintenance supervisor since 1944.

At present, Mr. Setser is on sick leave, on doctor's order.

Calendar Of The Week's EVENTS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8
7:30 p. m.—Franklin Lodge No. 452, Loyal Order of Moose, at Slagle Memorial building.
8 p. m.—Wesleyan Service Guild of Franklin Methodist church at home of Mrs. J. E. Perry, Sr.

SATURDAY
7:30 p. m.—Teen Age club at Skyway hotel.
8 p. m.—Square dance (American Legion benefit) at Memorial building.

MONDAY
10 a. m.—Board of county commissioners at courthouse.
7 p. m.—Franklin Lions club at Presbyterian church annex.
7 p. m.—Franklin Troop No. 1, Boy Scouts, at Memorial building.
8 p. m. Co-Ed club at Memorial building.

WEDNESDAY
7 p. m.—Franklin Rotary club at Memorial building.
7:30 p. m.—Macon County Memorial Post No. 7339, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at Agricultural building.

Mrs. Wilkes Is Claimed By Death

Mrs. Linda Reeves Wilkes, 83, wife of James F. Wilkes, whom she married more than 50 years ago, died at her home in the Iotla community Saturday at 6 p. m. She had been ill for eight months.

She was born and reared in the Iotla section and always had made her home there.

Survivors, in addition to her husband, are four daughters, Mrs. Horace Morgan and Mrs. Walter Bryant, of Franklin, Route 3, Mrs. Mary Bryson, of Atlanta, and Mrs. Ernest Roper, of Covington, Ga.; a son, Grady Wilkes, of Route 3; and 27 grandchildren, and 34 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at the home Monday morning, with the Rev. Robert L. Poindecker officiating, and burial was in the Wilkes cemetery.

NEW CULLASAJA SCHOOL READY

\$70,000 Building Which Merges 5 Schools To Go Into Use Today

The new Cullasaja school, built at an estimated cost of \$70,000, is complete except for a few details, and will be put in use with the opening this morning of the Macon County schools for the 1949-50 school year.

The new school, situated four and a half miles from Franklin on the Highlands road, consolidates five smaller schools, and, with 10 teachers, becomes the largest rural school in the county. Pupils who formerly attended the Higdonville, Pine Grove, Salem, Gold Mine, and Mashburn's Branch schools this year will go to the new Cullasaja school, which will be headed by William G. (Bill) Crawford, principal.

The one-story structure, which is 236 feet long and contains approximately 18,000 square feet of floor space, has 10 classrooms, an auditorium, principal's office, first aid room, and four rest rooms. The auditorium is 80 x 50, with a stage 25 x 16, equipped with both foot and proscenium lights.

All the classrooms are 34 x 22 or 36 x 24, and each classroom has four windows. Indirect fluorescent lighting will be used, County Supt. Guy L. Houk explained.

A 16-foot drive will pass in front of the building, with a five-foot concrete sidewalk between the drive and the school.

The construction is brick on cinderblock, and Mr. Houk said the only wood in it is the doors and facings and the beams in the roof.

A steam heating plant has been installed, and an 85-foot well will supply water. The building stands on a six and a half-acre plot, with plans calling for a playground at the rear of the structure.

Mr. Houk said he drew the designs and plans, and he has supervised construction, with Nat Phillips in charge of the general construction. The electrical work was done by James Wurst, and the plumbing and heating was let to contract, the contract having been given to W. G. Hall, of Franklin.

Work on the building started April 1.

Will Launch Drive Sept. 19 For Symphony

Plans for the fifth annual membership campaign of the North Carolina Symphony Society were outlined at a meeting of 15 persons, representing widely separated sections of the county, held Tuesday evening at the home of Miss Laura M. Jones.

The Little Symphony orchestra is brought here each year for two concerts—a free matinee for school children, and an evening performance for adults—through the society.

This year's campaign in this county will open September 19.

W. N. Sloan, 1949 Macon County Symphony chairman, emphasized the thought that purchase of a membership is primarily a payment of dues in an organization that seeks to bring good music to the people of the state, rather than merely buying a ticket to a concert. Macon County members, of course, are chiefly interested in bringing the orchestra to Franklin, he said, and he added that a membership, incidentally, entitles the purchaser to a ticket to the evening concert here.

In the general discussion, school principals and teachers present cited the value of the orchestra to the children of the county, and Mr. Sloan commented that the chief reason for the campaign here lies in the importance, educationally, of the free children's concert.

The possibility of creating a circulating library of records, so that school children could become familiar with the best in music, was discussed.

A list of persons throughout the county who will be asked to work in this year's campaign was compiled.

Will Seek Funds For Early Start On Three Schools

Report Mrs. Dowdle Backed By 7 Of 13 For School Board

Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill announced Tuesday that she had mailed her resignation as a member of the county board of education to C. Gordon Moore, board chairman.

The law provides for appointment of her successor by the county Democratic executive committee. T. H. (Tom) Johnson, county chairman, said Tuesday afternoon that he was "undecided whether or not it will be necessary to call a meeting" of the committee. It was understood that what he had in mind was the report that seven of the 13 members of the committee already had signed a statement favoring Mrs. C. N. (Joe) Dowdle for the school board post.

Should the executive committee leave the post vacant for 30 days, the responsibility for making the appointment would pass to the state board of education.

Mrs. Sherrill will become county home demonstration agent September 15, and she has been told she cannot hold both positions.

Will Build Sidewalk On Wayah Street

Construction of a graveled sidewalk from Wayah street to Wayah street to School street, along the west end of the athletic field at the school, was authorized by the Franklin board of aldermen, at its meeting Monday night.

The board also authorized the painting and installation of seven park benches, which have been bought with funds raised by public subscription, to replace the delapidated benches that now face the Confederate monument on Rankin square.

Action on the controversy over the name of the old Georgia road, changed to Maple street several months ago, was deferred for the second time.

The sidewalk project was proposed by Woodrow Reeves, chairman of the board's street committee. He pointed out that recent erection of a fence around the athletic field will force children from the Bonny Crest section to come to school via Wayah street, which is narrow, carries much traffic, and is without a sidewalk. In the past, children from the Bonny Crest area have walked across the athletic field. The board also forbade parking on Wayah street between Porter and Depot street.

Following some discussion, the board authorized purchase of three blinker traffic lights, to be placed at points chosen by the street committee.

Frank B. Duncan, president of the Lions club, asked the board to consider installing sanitary facilities on the playground on the Slagle Memorial grounds, which has been equipped by the Lions club. A committee, made up of W. C. Burrell, Verlon Swafford, and Russell Cabe, was appointed to work with the Lions club on the project.

Board members attending: Mr. Reeves, Mr. Burrell, Mr. Swafford, Mr. Cabe, and Erwin Patton. Mayor H. W. Cabe presided.

PLAN RUMMAGE SALE
A rummage sale will be held on Main street here Saturday morning, for the benefit of the Nequassa chapter of the Eastern Star, it has been announced.

HIGDONS TO GATEHR
The annual reunion of the Higdon family will be held Sunday at the old home in the Higdonville community, it was announced this week.

PLAN SQUARE DANCE
A benefit square dance will be held at the Otto school Saturday night at 8 o'clock, with Keener's string band providing music, it has been announced.

Mrs. Guffey Is Named To New 'Helping Teachers' Post

The county board of education Monday:

1. Voted to submit applications to the state, as soon as required surveys have been made, for funds to build the East Franklin-Millshoal, Highlands, and Nantahala schools.

2. Appointed Mrs. Beth Guffey, former first grade teacher in the Franklin school, as county helping teacher, a position somewhat similar to that of the county supervisors formerly employed in many counties. The board of county commissioners will be asked to pay Mrs. Guffey mileage for travel to the various schools in the county.

3. Decided to ask the commissioners for an annual appropriation of not less than \$4,000 as a physical education-recreation fund for the schools in the county.

4. Heard County Supt. G. L. Houk outline the procedure for obtaining funds from the state for construction of new school buildings.

A number of other matters, including possible sites for the East Franklin and Cartoogechay schools, also were discussed.

Decision to seek first funds for the East Franklin-Millshoal, Highlands, and Nantahala schools was on motion of Bob Sloan, seconded by Fred Edwards. Mr. Sloan suggested that, if there was delay in obtaining state funds, proceeds of the \$400,000 county bond issue, if available by that time, could be used for these schools, and urged an early start.

This action followed an outline by Mr. Houk of the forms, covering complete information and maps, required by the state before approval of use of state funds for school building projects. Six different forms must be filled out for each school unit, he said, and projects must be personally presented to survey panels that are to be set up by the state. The purpose, Mr. Houk said, is to make sure that the best overall job is done for each county and the state as a whole.

Meanwhile, the state board of education, at a meeting in Raleigh last week, allotted Macon County \$361,469.05—in conformity with 1949 legislative acts—for school building purposes, and approved 13 projects in nine counties.

The question of funds for athletic purposes in the various schools was raised by Mr. Sloan, but it was Mr. Edwards who made the motion to formally request the funds from the commissioners. Mr. Sloan made the point that, at present, funds for athletic facilities and equipment come from donations, the result being that a comparatively few people pay the entire cost.

A delegation, made up of Mrs. Lilly Quilliams, Mrs. Helen Rhodes, Mrs. Lester Huscusson, and Neil Waldrop, of upper Cartoogechay, appeared to ask a change in the route of the bus from Rainbow Springs to the Slagle and Franklin schools. The bus now turns off at Southard's road and goes across Kimsey mountain and down Jones creek. By changing the

—Continued on Page Eight

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	82	60	.84
Thursday	82	52
Friday	75	57
Saturday	70	58	.06
Sunday	80	60	.26
Monday	74	63	.02
Tuesday	72	61	2.68
Wednesday	64	.57

FRANKLIN RAINFALL
(As recorded by Manson L. Stiles, TVA weather observer)
For 24 hours ending at 8 a. m. Thursday, .04 of an inch; Saturday, .02; Sunday, .40; Tuesday, 2 inches; Wednesday, .34.