

BLACKTOPPING JOBS HERE WILL BE LET JAN. 31

3 Miles To Be Paved This Year; Thrash Outlines Plans

Contracts for blacktopping sections of road in this county, totaling 12.3 miles, are to be let for January 31, it was announced by L. Dale Thrash, division highway commissioner, at a meeting held at the courthouse here last Thursday.

Other projects, totaling 11 miles, are to be put in shape this year for blacktopping in 1951, Mr. Thrash said.

The roads to be let to contract this month are: Flat Mountain road, 2.1 miles; Leatherman Gap road, 3.6 miles; Garner and Porter road, 2.8 miles; Horse Cove road, 3.8 miles. All will be 16 feet wide.

The nine roads listed by Mr. Thrash to be graded, etc., this year, so they will be ready for blacktopping in 1951, are:

Tesenta, 2.7 miles; Flat Mountain, 2.3; South Skeenah and Jones Creek, 2.2; Clark's Chapel, 4.6; Ellijay, 4.7; Rabbit Creek, 6.2; Patton, 5.5; and Iotia, 2.9.

Meanwhile, George Stalcup, county highway foreman, outlined some of the road work that is now under way in this county.

The Onion Mountain road, he said, is being graded from the school to Highway 64, a distance of about 9.5 miles, and then will be graveled; a stretch of the Ellijay road is being prepared for blacktopping in 1951; compressor drilling is under way on the Younce Creek road, and a bulldozer will start work on that road a little later; and work will begin in a fortnight on construction of five bridges on the Beechertown - Camp Branch road.

The Rabun Bald link was listed at the meeting as scheduled for letting this month and construction in 1950, but highway officials announced later that it would not be possible to get a road ready for blacktopping this year.

After the roads to be let to contract for blacktopping this year had been listed and discussed, Mr. Thrash called for a vote on whether the list was satisfactory, and a motion was made and passed that the list be approved by the meeting.

The conference was called by Mr. Thrash primarily for members of the county's advisory road committee, but about 150 persons, from all sections of the county, were present, and

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FOOTBALL SPEAKER — Carl G. Snively, above, head football coach at the University of North Carolina, will be the chief speaker at the banquet at which the Franklin Rotary club will honor members of the 1949 Franklin High school football squad. The banquet will be held at the Slagle Memorial building the evening of January 25.

Famed Player Of Ping Pong Here Tonight

Lou Pagliaro, world champion table tennis (ping pong) player, will appear in public exhibition at the Franklin school this (Thursday) evening, under sponsorship of the Franklin Rotary club.

Generally considered the world's leader in this indoor sport, Mr. Pagliaro for three consecutive years was the United States national singles champion, the first man ever to win the honor three times in a row.

Many persons have seen Mr. Pagliaro in motion picture shorts.

He is now on a nation-wide tour.

His exhibition partner is Hamilton Canning, himself internationally famous as a ping pong player.

Tonight's exhibition is set for 7:45 o'clock. The admission charge is \$1 for adults, 35 cents for school children, both amounts including the federal tax.

An exhibition for children at the school will be put on by Mr. Pagliaro and Mr. Canning this afternoon.

Arrangements for the exhibition were made by a Rotary committee made up of Grant Zickgraf, Harmon H. Gnuse, Jr., and S. W. Mendenhall.

Cook Heads Baptist Pastors' Body In W. N. C.

The Rev. W. N. Cook, of Franklin, was chosen moderator of the Western North Carolina Baptist Ministers conference, at a quarterly meeting at the First Baptist church here Monday.

Mr. Cook succeeds the Rev. S. L. Lamm, of Bryson City.

The Rev. Gordon Seroggs, of Sylva, was elected vice-moderator, and the Rev. Charles B. McConnell, of Cullowhee, was named clerk and treasurer.

All of the 24 associations in the area were represented at the meeting. The program was made up of talks by the Revs. D. D. Gross, L. G. Elliott, C. M. Warren, J. Alton Morris, W. C. Pipes, and Paul Nix. The Rev. Edgar Willix conducted the devotional, and Mr. Lamm presided.

The next meeting is to be held at the Scotts Creek Baptist church, in Jackson county, April 10.

Stockholders Reelect All Bank's Directors

Stockholders of the Bank of Franklin met in annual session yesterday and reelected all directors. The directors are A. B. Slagle, M. L. Dowdle, H. W. Cane, Fred M. Arnold, Grover Jamison, Sr., R. S. Jones, and L. B. Liner.

The directors planned to meet late yesterday to elect officers of the bank for the coming year.

SEN. GRAHAM'S ADDRESS WILL HIGHLIGHT MEET

C. Of C. To Hold Annual Dinner Session Next Wednesday Night

The address of Senator Frank P. Graham will highlight next Wednesday evening's annual meeting of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce. It will be the first public appearance of Senator Graham, who is nationally known in Franklin.

The dinner session, to be held at the Slagle Memorial building at 7 p. m., also will be marked by the election of directors and brief reports. President Frank B. Duncan will preside.

Mrs. Virginia Bryant Jones, chamber secretary, will review briefly the organization's accomplishments during the past year, and B. L. McGlamery, a director, will make a report on community progress in 1949.

Five directors are to be chosen, and a nominating committee has suggested the names of 12 men from whom to select the five directors. The 12 nominated are T. W. Angel, Jr., and W. C. Burrell (both renominations), Bob Sloan, Prelo Dryman, Claude Bolton, E. J. Whitmire, Jr., W. W. Reeves, Ted Reber, Rafe Teague, L. H. Page, Wiley Brown, and Kenneth Bryant.

Meanwhile, the sale of dinner tickets was brisk, a total of 95 of the 200 available having been taken up to noon yesterday. First preference for tickets is being given members of the Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary club (the Rotary, which has its weekly meetings at the Memorial building on Wednesday evenings, is meeting jointly with the Chamber of Commerce). But any tickets that remain unsold at noon Saturday will go on sale at Angel's Drug store to the general public.

Senator Graham, who is scheduled to make an address in Raleigh next Tuesday, will fly to Asheville Wednesday morning, where he will be met by representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, and brought to Franklin by automobile. He will be the guest Wednesday night of Dr. and Mrs. Edgar Angel at their home, "Midoaks". Mrs. Graham, who was invited to accompany the senator to Franklin, will be unable to come, it was learned.

Dr. Graham was appointed U. S. senator by Governor Kerr

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This District Wins Scout Attendance Cup For Sixth Time

For the sixth consecutive year, the Smoky Mountain Boy Scout district Monday won the attendance cup at the annual Daniel Boone council meeting in Asheville.

The award is made on a basis of the number present and the miles traveled.

Attending from Franklin were the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, who is a member of the executive committee, John D. Alsop, James Hauser, Mr. and Mrs. John Edwards, Guy Sharitz, Mrs. Esther Freas, Miss Frances Barr, and Mrs. Neomia Bowman, who is in Franklin as the guest of Miss Lassie Kelly.

7,193 Immunizations Given By Health Department In '49

A total of 7,193 immunizations were given by the Macon County health department during 1949, the annual report of the department shows.

Of this number, 3,778 were for typhoid fever; 1,213 for smallpox; 746 for diphtheria; 356 for whooping cough, 266 for tetanus; 55 for influenza and colds; and 779 were "booster" shots to immunize against diphtheria and whooping cough.

In connection with the diphtheria, Mrs. Gladys Mae Shope, public health nurse, called attention to the fact that only 54 of the total of 746 were immunizations of children under the age of one year. Citing the two diphtheria deaths this county had in 1949, she emphasized that all children should



HEADS 'MARCH OF DEMES' — J. Clinton Brookshire has been named Macon County chairman for the 1950 campaign for funds to fight infantile paralysis (polio). The drive is set for January 16-31, when it is hoped to surpass last year's contribution. This county, which usually oversubscribes its quota, last year raised \$3,665, or \$357 more than its quota. No quotas have been set this year, but each county is asked to raise more than it did in 1949.

MERCHANTS SET UP TEMPORARY ORGANIZATION

Officers And Directors To Draw By-Laws, Get Credit Bureau Data

More than 65 merchants from Franklin and nearby communities met Tuesday night at the courthouse and voted unanimously to organize a merchants association here.

A temporary organization was set up with J. C. Jacobs as president; A. R. Higdon, vice-president; and Bruce Bryant, secretary-treasurer. Sidney Martin, Tom Henson, and William Katenbrink were asked to serve as directors.

The main purpose of the organization at this time is to establish a credit bureau here. Following a discussion of the problems incurred in establishing such an agency, the group decided to send the present group of officials to Asheville to study the system in operation there. The present officers were also instructed to draw a set of by-laws to present to the merchants interested in the formation of this organization.

Officials of the Sylva Merchants association were present and outlined the functions of their organization to the group. E. J. Nicholson, president of the Sylva group, pointed out that their group works in cooperation with the chamber of commerce, and that the latter organization was a great assistance to the merchants in pushing promotion days, regulating working hours and holidays, and elimination of solicitations of the merchants for unworthy causes.

The newly elected president announced that a meeting of the entire group will be called when new by-laws had been prepared by the temporary officers and a further study has been made of the credit bureau problem.

HARRY THOMAS IS CANDIDATE FOR SHERIFF

Breaks Political Ice Here; Full County Slate To Be Elected

John Harry Thomas this week announced that he is a candidate for sheriff of Macon County, subject to the Democratic primary May 27.

Mr. Thomas, widely known manager of the Farmers Federation, broke the political ice here, having been the first candidate to make a public announcement. There has been considerable political discussion, however, since the first of the year. In making his announcement, Mr. Thomas said he had decided to make the race at the suggestion and request of many friends.

A full slate of county officials is to be elected this year—representative, three county commissioners, sheriff, clerk of superior court, register of deeds, surveyor, and coroner. And in this senatorial district, a state senator also is to be chosen.

In addition, in the Democratic primary five will be nominated for the county board of education. The board of education, however, under the law, is not elected, but appointed by the general assembly, the assembly usually appointing those chosen in the Democratic primary.

April 15 is the deadline for candidates for the legislature and for county offices to file. The registration period for the primary is April 29-May 13. May 20 is challenge day. And the primary will follow a week later, May 27.

Mr. Thomas, a native of this county, was reared here and has spent his entire life in Macon County, except for a period of about two years in the State of Washington. The son of the late John H. Thomas and of Mrs. Thomas, he was educated at the Franklin High school. After his return from Washington, he engaged in farming for about eight years. In 1939 he became an employe of the Farmers Federation, and four years later was promoted to store manager, a position he has held since.

He is a Mason, a former governor of the local Moose lodge, and is active in the Franklin Lions club.

He and Mrs. Thomas, the former Miss Gennette Mallonee, and their four children make their home at the Thomas farm, where Mr. Thomas was reared, on the Highlands road.

This is the first time he has been a candidate for any public office.

Miss Phillips Ranks Third In Her Class

Miss Elizabeth Anne Phillips, who is a student at Peace Institute, Raleigh, not only made the honor roll at that institution for the first quarter, but ranked third from the top in her class. It has been learned here. Miss Phillips is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Phillips, of Franklin.

A total of 7,088 persons lost their licenses to drive during 1949, as a result of convictions of driving under the influence of alcohol, the department of motor vehicles has announced.



OUT FOR SHERIFF — Harry Thomas, above, is the first candidate to enter this year's Macon County political contests. Mr. Thomas announced this week that he is a candidate for the Democratic nomination for sheriff.

Post Office Show Gains In Receipts

Gross receipts at the Franklin post office during 1949 showed a gain of \$1,201.20 over the total for 1948, figures compiled under the direction of E. W. Long, postmaster, show.

Postal receipts are generally considered a fairly accurate barometer of business conditions.

1949 was the third consecutive year that the receipts of the local post office have shown increases.

The total for last year was \$24,418.85. This compares with \$23,217.65 in 1948.

The figure for 1947 was \$21,779.91.

The total in 1946 \$21,000.00.

In terms of percentage, last year's receipts showed a gain of nearly five per cent over 1948; the 1948 figure revealed an increase of nearly seven per cent over 1947; and the 1947 gross was a little more than three per cent greater than that in 1946.

Debate To Mark Monday Night's Meeting Of P. T. A.

Miss Roberta Enloe will be in charge of the program at Monday's meeting of the Franklin Parent-Teacher association, set for 7:30 o'clock at the school.

Miss Enloe has been emphasizing debating among her high school students, and a student debate will mark the program Monday night.

The question to be discussed is, Resolved, that the President of the United States should be elected by a direct vote of the people.

Miss Ann Teague and John Phillips will uphold the affirmative, while Misses Connare Nolen and Betty Lee Moore will be the negative speakers.

Baptist Women Plan Leadership Meet January 20

A leadership conference will be held by the Woman's Missionary unions of Macon County Friday of next week at the First Baptist church here.

Included on the program will be discussions of methods of conducting the organization's work and of the associational officers to be elected at the annual meeting.

Persons interested in promoting the work of the Woman's Missionary union are invited. Each person is requested to bring one article to help furnish the picnic lunch which will be served at the church.

Plan Cartoogechaye Road Meet Tonight At 8

A Cartoogechaye community meeting to discuss secondary roads will be held at the Slagle School at 8 o'clock tonight (Thursday). The meeting was called by J. H. Brookshire, that community's member of the county advisory road committee.

BONDS TO TAKE NO EXTRA TAX, BALDWIN SAYS

55 Cents Is Available In Present Levy And \$140,000 On Hand

Issuance of the proposed \$514,000 in county bonds for building schools will require no increase in the current county-wide tax levy of \$1.10 on the \$100 valuation, W. E. (Gene) Baldwin, chairman of the board of county commissioners, announced this week.

Meanwhile, the application for approval of the proposed bonds, required by law to be filed with the Local Government Commission, Raleigh, was forwarded to the commission by R. S. Jones, county attorney, last Friday.

Mr. Baldwin explained that the county is now levying 43 cents for debt service, which is more than sufficient to take care of the outstanding bonds. A total of approximately \$140,000, in fact, has been accumulated in the debt service sinking fund.

In addition, he said, the present levy includes 12 cents for school capital outlay. It was from this capital outlay levy, plus court fines and forfeitures, that funds were accumulated to build the Cullasaja school.

Thus the county will have a total of 55 cents to apply on debt. On the present calculation of \$12,175,109, that will bring in an annual revenue of approximately \$87,000.

The present bonded indebtedness of the county has been reduced to approximately \$589,000, of which about \$118,000 is for schools. This debt is being reduced at the rate of approximately \$25,000 annually. The interest, which is in addition to these principal payments, this year amounts to \$20,965.50, but the total for interest decreases each year as the principal is reduced.

In commenting on the fact that the bond issue would require no increase in the county-wide tax levy, Mr. Baldwin also remarked that the extra tax of 15 cents now being paid by persons who live in Franklin township soon will be a thing of the past. This tax is to retire old road bonds issued by the township. That debt now has been reduced to \$26,000, and about \$12,000 has been accumulated in that fund.

One more levy after this year may be necessary to complete raising this \$20,000, Mr. Baldwin said. After that, people of this township will pay the same tax as those in other parts of the county. (An exception, of course, is the town taxes levied on property within the limits of the towns of Franklin and Highlands.)

1950 PMA Committee Is Chosen

A county committee for the Production and Marketing Administration in this county has been selected as follows:

Robert Fulton, chairman, Carr Bryson, vice-chairman, Carl Morgan, regular member, Ceil Parker, first alternate, and J. R. Shields, second alternate. The committee was named by delegates chosen from communities throughout the county, at a meeting held at the Agricultural building December 16.

This group is charged with the responsibility of advising and assisting of Agricultural Adjustment Administration in Macon County on its policies.

Following their election to serve for this year, the group decided that farmers who have had two years' experience growing burley tobacco may file applications for new 1950 allotments. The applications must be filed by January 31, according to the board.

THORPE IMPROVING

J. E. S. Thorpe, who underwent a major operation in a New Orleans hospital sometime ago, has entered Mission hospital, Asheville, for treatment. He was reported yesterday to be improving.

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

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
Miss Mary Allman went to Bryson City last Wednesday on a visit to Mr. John Everett's family, and then to Webster and Sylva to visit friends.

Town Marshall reports four arrests last week for being drunk and disorderly.

25 YEARS AGO
The directors of the Citizens Bank met last Monday and reviewed the work of the bank for the past year. It was found that the bank had had a very prosperous year and a six per cent dividend was declared and a six per cent surplus was set aside. On account of his health, D. W. Blaine resigned as president, and Sam L. Franks was elected in his stead. R. D. Sisk was elected first vice-president, J. W. Foper second vice-president, and J. S. Conley secretary.

10 YEARS AGO
R. L. Bryson, former manager of the Spruce Pine Hotel, at Spruce Pine, with Mrs. Bryson and granddaughter, Miss Joan Bryson, have moved to Franklin, where, after the first of February, they will operate the Scotts Pine hotel, which they recently purchased.