

Local Phone Firm Figures In Merger

BOARD TO BUY MODERN TRUCK FOR GARBAGE

Order Traffic Light Moved, Parking Law Enforced

The Franklin board of aldermen Monday night:

1. Moved to buy an up-to-date garbage truck.
2. Order the traffic light at Ralph Womack's service station on the Georgia road moved to the intersection of East Main and Depot streets.
3. Instruct the police to issue warrants for motorists who fail to report when given parking violation tickets.
4. Discussed improvements at the municipal septic tanks, on the Little Tennessee river, and instructed Water Superintendent Herman Childers to proceed with the work.
5. Discussed the possibility of removing some or all of the maple trees on Main street, but took no action.

The disposal truck the board has in mind is a modern, attractive vehicle, inclined so that no refuse would be spilled on the streets, and equipped with a device for packing the refuse, so that larger amounts could be hauled at one time, thus reducing the number of trips to the garbage dump. Woodrow Reeves, street committee chairman, was instructed to prepare specifications for advertisements for bids.

In ordering the change in the situation of the traffic light, it was pointed out that the light has been found unnecessary at its present location, and that a light is badly needed at the East Main-Depot intersection, two serious accidents having occurred there in recent weeks.

C. D. Baird, police chief, told the board many motorists ignore tickets placed on their cars for traffic law violations. He was instructed to warn a motorist one time, and if the motorist then failed to report to the town office with his ticket, to issue a warrant. It was brought out:

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Do You Remember . . . ?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Mr. R. L. Porter entertained a number of his friends at his hospitable home on East Main street last Monday, in honor of his fiftieth birthday. Those who were present, so far as were able to observe, were Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Deal, Mr. and Mrs. K. Elias, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Bryson, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Allman, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Waldrup, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Curtis, Dr. and Mrs. J. F. Sudderth and children, of Indian Territory, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Allman, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Allman, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Crawford, and Messrs. G. A. Jones, C. C. Smith, N. I. Barnard, J. A. Hall, and Wm. Meroney, of Murphy.

25 YEARS AGO

Uncle Harve Mashburn and Mrs. Mashburn are again at home in Franklin after spending several months in Washington and Oregon with their children and other relatives.

Mr. Sam Franks, Franklin's efficient postmaster, has received a candulus. For the benefit of those who may not find this word in their dictionaries, a candulus is a machine for cancelling stamps.

10 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Mary Downs, who would have been 103 years old in May, died last Friday morning in Angel hospital. Mrs. Downs was active until December 7. Last year she tended a garden, canned fruits, looked after her chickens and a cow and did all her house work. She had lived alone for the past 15 years.

ANNOUNCES



W. E. BALDWIN
For Chairman
Board of Commissioners

W. E. BALDWIN OUT FOR POST

Commissioner Chairman Announces Candidacy For Renomination

W. E. (Gene) Baldwin this week announced that he is a candidate for chairman of the board of county commissioners, subject to the Democratic primary May 27.

Mr. Baldwin, Franklin business man, is the present chairman of the board.

Born and reared in this county, he attended the Macon County public schools and engaged in farming and construction work until eight years ago, when he entered the retail grocery business in Franklin, his present business. He is the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Baldwin, of the Burningtown community.

Mr. Baldwin was appointed chairman of the board in 1945, upon the death of the then chairman, Gus Leach. He was nominated and elected to a four-year term in 1946.

During his five years on the board, the county's tax rate has been reduced from \$1.20 on the hundred dollars' valuation to \$1.10, and today the county has a surplus in its debt service fund of approximately \$140,000.

As far as general operating expenses are concerned, the tax rate cut actually was more than 10 cents, since the commissioners have been applying 12 cents to a schools' capital outlay fund. The 12-cent levy, plus court fines and forfeitures, provided the \$70,000 to build the Cullasaja school, which was completed last fall.

Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin and family live on the Bryson City road, near Franklin.

Miss Archer Named To Honor Fraternity

Miss Mary Alice Archer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John M. Archer, Jr., of Franklin, recently was elected to membership in Sigma Pi Alpha, national honorary modern language fraternity. Miss Archer is a freshman at Meredith college, where she is majoring in home economics.

N. C. SYMPHONY TO PLAY HERE NEXT TUESDAY

Children's Performance Moved Up To 1:30 At Tabernacle

Making its fifth consecutive appearance in Franklin, the North Carolina Little Symphony orchestra will give two concerts here next Tuesday.

Playing under the direction of Dr. Benjamin Swalin, the 23-piece orchestra will give a free matinee for Macon County grammar school children at the Friendship Tabernacle, in the Bonny Crest section of Franklin, at 1:30 p. m. The evening concert is set for 8:30 o'clock Tuesday evening at the Franklin Methodist church.

The children's matinee had been scheduled for 2:30, but this week was changed to 1:30 to suit the convenience of some of the schools.

Admission to the evening performance will be by membership card or single-concert ticket. While tickets will be available at the door, if space in the church permits, W. N. Sloan, county chairman, this week again emphasized the advantages of Symphony Society membership.

A membership, he explains, helps make possible the free concert for the children; assures the holder of admission to the evening concert here; entitles the holder to attend, without charge, any of the orchestra's concerts—and a number are to be given in nearby communities; and membership is only \$2, while a ticket to the single concert here is \$2.10.

Memberships may be obtained in Franklin from Mr. Sloan, at his home in East Franklin, from Mrs. Betty Alexander at the office of J. H. Stockton in the Bank of Franklin Building, or at The Franklin Press. In Highlands, they may be obtained from Mrs. J. M. Valentine.

The tabernacle seats approximately 1,400, and thus will accommodate about 40 per cent of the elementary children in

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New Patrolman To Report Here For Duty Tomorrow

C. M. Byrd will report here tomorrow (Friday) for duty as state highway patrolman, it was announced yesterday by Sgt. T. A. Sandlin at Bryson City.

Mr. Byrd, who has been stationed at Spruce Pine, has been a member of the highway patrol for a number of years. He is expected to bring his family here.

Since the transfer, last month, of Patrolman Vincent Bryson, who had been stationed at Highlands, and the suspension, a fortnight ago, of W. T. Jenkins, who had been stationed here, no patrolman has been stationed in this county.

It was announced in Raleigh last week that Bryan L. Basden, who has just been graduated from the patrol school at Chapel Hill, would be sent to Franklin, but he has been stationed at Bryson City instead, where he will be given a period of training under experienced officers.

Adage Didn't Work This Time

Adages sometimes are misleading.

That is the conclusion of T. H. Fagg, assistant county farm agent in charge of boys' 4-H club work; because Mr. Fagg expected the old saying, "Never send a boy to do man's work" to prove true—and it didn't, in the case of the Highlands 4-H club.

For sometime the assistant agent has been debating how it would be best for the Highlands group to go about raising their share of the \$1,000 quota Macon County 4-H-ers are seeking for the Western North Carolina 4-H camp.

Last week he received a report that the job he was going to advise the Highlands youngsters how to do already had been done.

The club's officers—Clark Picklesimer, president, Virginia Vinson, vice-president, Lois Potts, secretary, Morris Wilson, treasurer, and Bobby Potts, program chairman—and members planned and staged a Valentine carnival in February which netted them a total of \$87.15 for their camp fund money.

In completing their report of the project, the club officers expressed appreciations to parents, teachers and Highlands business men for cooperation and donations, which helped to make the carnival such a success.

Census Jobs Examination Planned Here

Applications for positions as census enumerators in Macon County will be received up to Wednesday of next week, and applicants will be given an examination later the same week, it was announced yesterday by J. Harry Sample, district census supervisor, whose office is in Asheville.

At the same time Mr. Sample announced that J. J. Mann, of Franklin, has been appointed to a position in the Asheville office, and already has assumed his new duties. Mr. Mann's title is reserve crew leader.

The examination for census enumerators in this county will be held at the courthouse either Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday of next week. Applicants will be notified by mail which day, Mr. Sample said.

This county will have 21 enumerators, who will work under the direction of Mrs. Mary Louise Sherrill, crew leader. While they will be paid on a piece-work basis—so much per name, per farm, etc.—it is estimated

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MOONEY VERY ILL

C. J. Mooney, Franklin town clerk, yesterday was reported critically ill at Angel hospital, suffering from pneumonia with complications. Mr. Mooney entered the hospital last Saturday.

THREE SCHOOL BUILDING PLANS GO TO RALEIGH

Seek O. K. On Franklin High, Highlands, Nantahala

Tentative building plans for the new high school here and the new buildings at Highlands and Nantahala will be presented to state authorities in Raleigh today for approval. It was decided at Monday's meeting of the board of education.

Supt. Guy L. Houk showed the board plans for the Franklin High school, and explained that the plans for the Highlands and Nantahala schools should have arrived in Franklin from Ronald Greene, Asheville architect, but had not been received. It was agreed that individual members of the board should call at his office later to see the other two plans; meanwhile, the board on motion of Bob Sloan, seconded by Frank Browning, authorized Mr. Houk to go ahead and present the three for approval.

Mr. Houk explained that the Franklin high school plant will be two stories in height at the north end, one story at the south. On the lower floor the science laboratories, home economics department, and lunchroom will be situated, while the 20 classrooms will be on the upper floor. Decision has not been reached as to whether to put the music department in the high school building or the gymnasium-auditorium structure into which it proposed to transform the present high school building.

The structure will be situated between the present Porter street, its rear wall being 110 feet from the present elementary school. The entrance to the new structure will be near the south end.

The floors, he said, will be asphalt tile on concrete slab.

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Red Cross Fund Drive Under Way

The 1950 fund drive of the American Red Cross opened here Monday, following an organizational meeting at the Franklin Presbyterian church last Friday evening.

Workers throughout the county seek a total of \$2,044. That figure is approximately 14 per cent higher than the quota for last year.

Friday night's gathering of workers was addressed by the Rev. C. E. Murray, this year's fund chairman for the Macon County chapter. Mr. Murray stressed the work of the Red Cross, and emphasized the importance of this county's raising its quota promptly.

Among those who are making the canvass for Red Cross memberships are:

Franklin: Robert R. Gaines, chairman, William Katenbrink, T. H. Callahan, Bruce Bryant, J. L. West, Jr., Mrs. J. Ward Long, Miss Frances Barr, Mrs.

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HEADS C. OF C.



CLAUDE H. BOLTON

BOLTON NAMED HEAD OF C. OF C.

Meeting Of Merchants And Chamber Called For Friday Night

Claude H. Bolton is the new president of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce, succeeding Frank B. Duncan.

Other new officers are W. C. Burrell, vice-president, and B. L. McGlamery, treasurer. The officers were chosen at a meeting of the new and retiring directors last Friday night.

Also marking the meeting was the decision to plan a program of activities for the year and set up a budget to carry it out, prior to making the annual membership canvass. Named on a committee to plan the year's work and prepare a budget are Mr. Burrell, Mr. Duncan, L. H. Page, and J. C. Jacobs, the latter head of a temporary Franklin merchants' organization that it is proposed to merge with the chamber of commerce.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the chamber officers and directors and all interested Macon County merchants was called for tomorrow (Friday) night at 7:30 o'clock at the Agricultural building.

At that time the budget committee is expected to make its report and definite arrangements are to be worked out for a merchants' association committee within the chamber. Plans also will be discussed and possibly adopted for setting up a merchants' credit bureau.

Mr. Bolton, the new president of the chamber of commerce, is secretary-treasurer of the Nantahala Power & Light company.

A native of Badin, he has been with the Nantahala firm for 20 years, and has made his home in Franklin since the power company moved its offices here from Bryson City in 1937.

Miss Siler Named To Membership In National Society

Miss Freda Siler, of Franklin, student at St. Genevieve of the Pines, Asheville, last Friday was initiated into the National Honor Society for secondary schools.

To be eligible for membership, a student must make average grades of 90 or better over a period of time, and then must be recommended, on a basis of character and other qualifications, by faculty and student representatives.

Miss Siler's mother, Mrs. Allen Siler, accompanied by her other daughter, Nancy, attended the initiation ceremony.

F. T. A. TO MEET

The monthly meeting of the Cullasaja Parent-Teacher association will be held at the school Tuesday night.

Something New

This issue of The Press contains what is believed to be the first "double-page spread" in the history of this newspaper.

The "spread"—two pages, facing each other, but made up as a unit, with no space between—appears on pages 4 and 5.

PROGRAM CALLS FOR \$200,000 IN EXPANSION

Charlotte Man To Head Concern; McKelvey To Remain Here

Plans for the merger of the Western Carolina Telephone company, which has its headquarters in Franklin, with the Carolina Mountain Telephone company, whose offices are in Weaverville, have been announced.

Under the plan, 51 per cent of the stock of the local firm is being transferred to the Carolina Mountain Telephone company.

Following the formal transfer of the stock, which is set for March 15 or 16, the two firms will apply to the N. C. Utilities commission for authority to merge.

Plans of the merged organization call for a \$200,000 expansion program for the eight-community area now served by the Western Carolina Telephone company.

Mr. Garibaldi, here for conferences with officials of the local telephone firm, said that Henry W. Cabe, now president of the Western Carolina firm, will serve on the board of directors of the merged concern, as will Russell E. McKelvey, Western Carolina general manager. Mr. McKelvey also will continue in the capacity of general manager of the exchanges in this area.

Mr. Garibaldi, whose home is Charlotte, was accompanied to Franklin by Thomas H. (Tom) Sawyer, of Weaverville, executive vice-president of the Carolina Mountain firm.

The Carolina Mountain Telephone company has a total of approximately 3,500 telephones in the nine communities it now serves—Weaverville, Marshall, Burnsville, Bakerville, Mars Hill, Hot Springs, Enka, Leicester, and Marion. The Western Carolina Telephone company has a total of about 2,200 telephones in the communities of Franklin, Highlands, Clayton, Cashiers, Cullowhee, Sylva, Bryson City, and Cherokee.

The merged company, therefore, will be a 5,700-telephone organization, which will make it the fifth or sixth largest independent telephone company in the state.

The expansion program in this area, already mapped by the Western Carolina Telephone company, will be pushed by the merged firm, it was said.

This program calls for installation of the dial telephone systems in Highlands and Clayton, the equipment for which already is on order.

Dial systems also are planned at Bryson City and Cherokee.

Referring to the insistence of the Bryson City board of aldermen that more adequate service be provided at Cherokee, because of the annual pageant that is to be inaugurated there

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Commissioners Will Sit As Equalization Board March 27-29

Members of the county board of commissioners will sit as a board of tax equalization and review on the last Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday in this month—March 27, 28, and 29—it was announced this week.

On these days the board will hear complaints of inequalities in tax valuation. Persons who feel their property is not correctly valued for taxes are requested to appear before the board at that time.

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	57	31	1.90
Thursday	37	19	00
Friday	43	18	00
Saturday	43	17	T
Sunday	67	32	00
Monday	60	29	00
Tuesday	49	42	28
Wednesday	41	28	00

ORCHESTRA TO PLAY HERE MARCH 14—Pictured above is the 23-piece North Carolina Little Symphony Orchestra, which will give two performances here next Tuesday. The group, under the direction of Dr. Benjamin Swalin, will play for school children at a free matinee at 2:30 p. m. at the Friendship Tabernacle. The evening concert, for Symphony society members and ticket holders, is set for 8:30 o'clock at the Franklin Methodist church.