

## County, 2 Towns Set Same Tax Rates

### Highlands Group Protests Against Plans For School

**Tells Board, In Heated Session, 'Not What Was Promised'**

A Highlands delegation of 15 persons appeared at Monday's meeting of the county board of education to protest against the plans, as drawn, for the proposed new Highlands school.

Frank H. Potts, who opened the discussion for the delegation, told the board and county superintendent flatly that "we are not getting what we were promised before the bond election."

At several points during the discussion voices were raised in anger, as board members, superintendent, and members of the delegation all tried to talk at once.

The Highlands group said the board, in a published, signed statement, promised that Highlands would have a 17-room building, plus a combination auditorium-gymnasium, plus a lunchroom, and that County Superintendent G. L. Houk promised that the auditorium-gymnasium would be 80 by 120 feet.

The present plans for the Highlands school, members of the delegation pointed out, call for 16 rooms, instead of 17 and for a single room to serve the three purposes of auditorium, gymnasium, and lunchroom, instead of a combination gymnasium-auditorium, plus a lunchroom. And this three-way combination, they added, is to be 70 by 112 feet, instead of 80 by 120.

The school board issued a statement, signed by all five members, the early part of last February, saying: "We propose to and will build buildings of following capacity at following locations", followed by a list of the eight schools, under which Highlands was listed: "Highlands elementary and high school, 17 rooms, auditorium-

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

**50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK.**  
Messrs. Chas. Robinson and Jas. Crowford, of Franklin, were here this week selling stereopticon views.—Waynesville Courier.

Miss May McDowell returned from the Normal and Industrial College, Greensboro, Thursday, where she graduated last week.

We regret to learn that little Don Ray, son of J. F. Ray, was pretty badly hurt Thursday evening by being thrown from a horse on Iola street, near the powder house.

**25 YEARS AGO**  
Miss Elizabeth Johnston left last week for New York, where she will take a special summer course at Columbia university.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Finton and Miss Edwina Behre, together, with a number of their artist pupils, are expected to arrive here Sunday from New York. The summer sessions of the Finton School of Music will begin here next week.

**10 YEARS AGO**  
Contracts were let Monday by the Nantahala Power & Light company for the construction of the Glenville and Nantahala hydro-electric projects, the largest hydro-electric development within the state in 20 years.

The mattress project, which has been in operation for one week, has already received 333 applications from families eligible to enlist, according to Miss Florence Stallcup, county home demonstration agent.

### TOWN HAS MORE IN BUDGET FOR IMPROVEMENTS

**Tax Levy Same As Last Year; Valuation Is Now \$2,419,600**

The tax rate for the town of Franklin will remain \$1.10 per hundred dollar valuation for the year 1950-51.

This rate was set after the presentation and adoption of the budget for the year by the board of aldermen at their regular meeting Monday night. Budget figures were based on a valuation of \$2,419,600, which is an increase of \$219,600 over the property valuation for the preceding year.

This increased valuation, plus the lowering of the levy from 40 cents to 36 cents to meet debt service obligations, left more money available for operating expenses and improvements. The general fund will receive 74 cents.

The board also adopted a resolution accepting a two-foot right-of-way, from the federal government over the post office property on the west side of Patton avenue. The town had been negotiating for some time to obtain this property, with a view to broadening and paving this street, which runs from Main to Palmer street, just east of the postoffice.

There was considerable discussion among the board members concerning the problem of keeping the streets clean. It was pointed out that Main street merchants in particular could be of great assistance to the town by making sure that their trash is placed in garbage cans and if, when they swept in front of their stores they would place the accumulated trash in the trash cans instead of sweeping it into the street after the street cleaner has been by.

This year's budget contains increases for the water department, \$1,200; and the street department, \$5,122.79. Appropriations for the fire and police departments and general fund approximately the same as last year.

### Drs. Hemphill, Fisher Put On Hospital Staff

Dr. C. H. Hemphill, of Highlands, has been appointed to the Angel hospital consultant staff in internal medicine, and Dr. E. W. Fisher, of Franklin, to the active staff, Dr. Edgar Angel announced yesterday.

### Highlands Town Tax Levy Again Set At \$2.25

The board of commissioners of the Town of Highlands, at its meeting Monday night, set the town tax rate for the 1950-51 fiscal year, at \$2.25 on the \$100 property valuation.

The levy is divided: Debt service, 75 cents; general, \$1.50.

The rate is the same as that levied last year.

### Town Filled With Tourists For Week-end

The long July Fourth week-end—Friday evening to Wednesday morning—brought a near-capacity influx of tourists to Franklin, the chamber of commerce reported yesterday.

The town was fullest Sunday night, the chamber of commerce said.

A few visitors were reported to have left Franklin to seek accommodations elsewhere when an erroneous report got out that no rooms were left here.

Tourist courts and restaurants, especially, did a good business over the week-end.

### Head Of Methodist Home For Aged Will Preach Here Sunday

The Rev. Reid Wall, superintendent and minister of the Methodist Home for the Aged, in Charlotte, will be the guest minister at the First Methodist church here Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, it was announced yesterday by the pastor, the Rev. C. E. Murray.

The home for the aged was built by the Western North Carolina Conference of the Methodist church, and Mr. Wall was named superintendent and minister in 1948, following 20 years in Western North Carolina pastorates.

Mr. Wall's subject will be "His Perfect Tribute".

## BILLY GRAHAM, FAMED EVANGELIST, GRIPS MACON AUDIENCE OF 2,000

Billy Graham, famed young evangelist, had the breathless attention of an overflow crowd estimated at 2,000 or more persons last Thursday evening at the Friendship tabernacle. He spoke for 20 minutes, and in a fashion such as a Macon County audience never had heard from the pulpit.

The tall, handsome North Carolinian, who has swayed capacity audiences all over, and outside, America, literally hurled his words out at his audience. Almost from his first sentence, it was as though a machine-gun were in action. Speaking rapidly but distinctly, he emphasized every phrase, almost every word, with a forceful gesture, pounding home his points both with his voice and his body.

Almost shouting (though with no evidence of voice strain) most of the time, he occasionally dropped his voice, stooping his tall frame to reach the microphone, to say something in a conversational tone—as though he were speaking confidentially to the some 1,400 in the auditorium and the hundreds massed outside.

Off the platform, the curly haired six-footer, who is 33 but looks much younger, has a quick and engaging smile. But there were no smiles from the pulpit, no diversions; instead, he went straight to his point, his strong,

simple words and emphatic gestures accompanied by an air of deep earnestness.

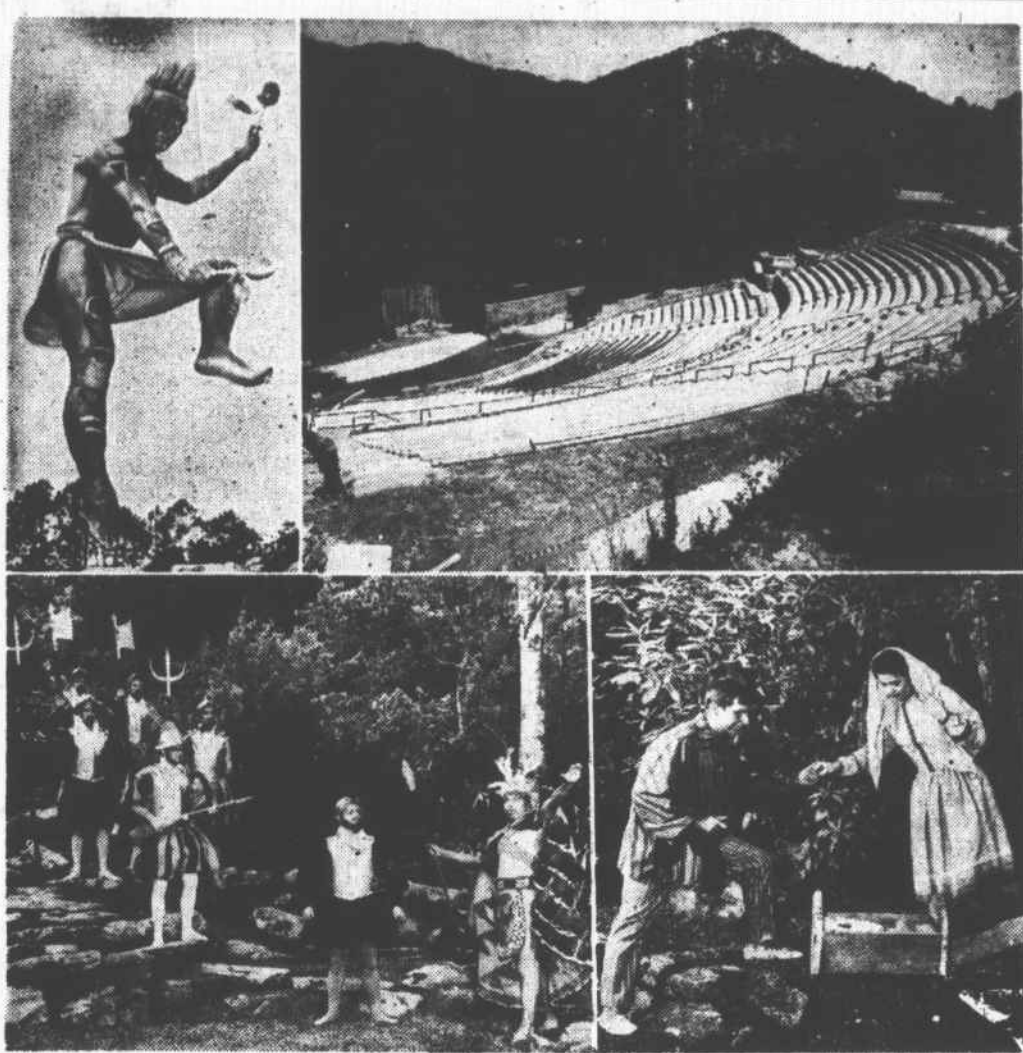
Some members of the audience, after the service, compared him with an Old Testament prophet, and his message, based on the first chapter of Isaiah, had a distinctly Old Testament flavor—"America must



BILLY GRAHAM

prepare to meet God and be judged."

"The Lord is saying America must repent. He is giving a last chance before we are judged, and destruction comes." America, he said, has "reached



**MOUNTAIN PAGEANT OPENS**—"Unto These Hills", drama of the Cherokee Indians, opened at Mountside Theatre, Cherokee, last Saturday evening for its first season. After nine successive performances, the pageant will be presented Wednesday through Sunday evenings of each week until Labor Day. Among the members of the cast is a Macon County man, Charles Brown, who has the role of the Indian, "White Path".

A large number of persons from here already have attended one or more performances. Local members of the Western North Carolina Associated Communities and of the Western North Carolina Tourist association witnessed a dress rehearsal last Friday evening, following meetings of the two organizations at Cherokee.

Shown at upper left is Chuck Morrell in one of four dance sequences; right, "Eastern America's spectacular outdoors show", Mountside Theatre; lower left, De Soto's arrival in Cherokee land; right, romantic leads "Suyeta" and "Mundayeli" (Ethelyn Saloli, Cherokee) begin new life in an old, storm-tossed land in last scene of two-act drama-saga, with original music by Cherokee Jack Frederick Kilpatrick.

### Baptist Pastors Of Area To Meet At Hayesville

The quarterly meeting of the Western North Carolina Baptist Pastors conference will be held at Hayesville Monday. It was announced here this week.

Approximately a dozen Macon County Baptist ministers are expected to attend. The Rev. W. N. Cook, of Franklin, is moderator, and the Rev. M. W. Chapman, of Franklin, will appear on the program.

The conference covers all of North Carolina west of Buncombe county.

## Crowd Of 1,500 Enjoys July Fourth Celebration

### SALE OF BONDS, LETTING AHEAD

### 2 Important Steps To Be Taken Next Week On School Program

Two important steps leading to the start of construction of Macon County's \$875,000 school building program will be taken next week.

The \$514,000 school building bonds to be issued by this county are advertised for sale, at the offices of the N. C. Local Government commission in Raleigh Tuesday, and the county board of education will open bids on construction of four of the eight schools it is proposed to build at the county superintendent's office in the courthouse at 2 p. m. next Friday.

The four schools for which contracts are sought at this time are the Franklin high school, East Franklin elementary, and Highlands and Nantahala schools.

School officials anxiously await the opening of the bids, since the amounts bid will indicate whether the \$875,000 available is going to be ample, insufficient, or just enough.

Meanwhile, the board of county commissioners took the required action Monday of setting maturity dates on the bonds, and the grading for the Franklin high school has been completed and grading begun at the Highlands and Nantahala sites.

In addition to the \$514,000 to become available from sale of the county's bonds, Macon's share of the state school building fund is \$361,000.

It is planned, as far as possible, to use the state funds in the construction of the East Franklin, Nantahala, and Highlands schools.

The four schools for which

A series of athletic and other contests on the square in the morning and a dance at the Franklin airport hangar in the evening highlighted the observance of July Fourth here.

Tuesday morning's outdoor celebration, attended by approximately 1,500 persons, was sponsored by the Franklin Merchants association, while the evening's dance was a benefit given by the local post of the Veteran of Foreign Wars.

It was a good-humored crowd that had gathered on the square by 10 a. m. for the morning events, at which B. L. (Benjie) McGlamery served as master of ceremonies.

While the program was under the merchants' sponsorship, many persons cooperated, those in charge especially citing the efforts of Herman Childers, who personally got, peeled, and hauled

### NONE HURT HERE

Despite the extraordinarily heavy holiday traffic, Macon county passed the long July Fourth week-end without a single highway accident injury, Highway Patrolman C. M. Byrd reported yesterday. This county achieved its no deaths, no injuries score on its highways while 412 were dying in highway accidents in the nation, 24 of them in North Carolina.

ed to town the pole for the greased pole event.

George Green, 34, climbed the greased pole, to capture the watch on top of it. The watch was contributed by Franklin Hardware company.

After a wild chase the greased pig, contributed by City market, was caught by George B. Clouse.

In the sack races, Richard Renshaw, 14-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Renshaw, won the football offered by the S. & L. 5c and 10c store, and Jean Russell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Russell, and Eva Mae West, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert West, tied in the

## COMMISSIONERS SET MACON'S LEVY AT \$1.10

**Schools Get 2 Cents More  
And Old-Age One As  
Debt Tax Drops**

The board of county commissioners, at its meeting Monday, set the county-wide tax rate for Macon County for the 1950-51 fiscal year at \$1.10 on the \$100 valuation—the same as last year.

The commissioners also acted on the school bond issue and voted to buy signs designating the various roads over the county by name.

It set the special Franklin township levy—for old township road bonds—at 15 cents, the same figure as last year.

Meanwhile, the Franklin town rate was set at \$1.10, and the rate in the town of Highlands was fixed at \$2.25.

Thus a taxpayer in the town of Franklin will pay a total of \$2.35 on the \$100 property valuation—\$1.10 county, 15 cents township; and \$1.10 town.

A taxpayer living in Franklin township, but outside the corporate limits, will pay \$1.25—\$1.10 county, and 15 cents township tax.

And a taxpayer living in the town of Highlands will pay \$3.35, \$1.10 county, and \$2.25 Highlands town tax.

The county levy is divided as follows:

General county, 15 cents; health, 5 cents; courts and jail, 4 cents; social security, 14 cents; pauper, 3 cents; county debt service, 43 cents; schools' current expense, 12 cents; and capital outlay for schools, 14 cents.

The levies for the various items are the same as last year, except in three instances.

Since the old school's debt is paid, except for a small amount of about \$700, and since the first bonds under the \$514,000 bond issue will not fall due until the 1951-52 fiscal year, last year's 3-cent levy for school debt service was eliminated, and the three cents was divided between social security and schools' capital outlay.

The levy for social security was increased from 13 to 14 cents, and that for capital outlay for schools from 12 to 14 cents. These two increases absorbed the three cents saved on schools' debt service, leaving the tax levy unchanged.

The commissioners also adopted a bond order giving formal approval to the action of the county attorney, R. S. Jones, in asking the Local Government commission to sell the county's \$514,000 school building bonds; fixed the form of the bonds, and set the maturity dates. Under the schedule of maturity dates, the bonds will be paid over a period of 27 years, with the interest on the unpaid portion falling due June 1 and December 1 of each year.

The order provides for \$12,000 in bonds to fall due in each of the 12 fiscal years 1951-52 through 1962-63; \$14,000 in each of the five fiscal years 1963-64 through 1967-68; and \$30,000 in each of the 10 fiscal years 1968-69 through 1977-78. The maturity date in each year is June 1.

Petitions for the State Highway and Public Works commission to take over the Tallent and Berry roads were approved.

## The Weather

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

|           | High | Low | Pct. |
|-----------|------|-----|------|
| Wednesday | 83   | 49  | 00   |
| Thursday  | 87   | 48  | 00   |
| Friday    | 79   | 52  | 00   |
| Saturday  | 84   | 47  | 00   |
| Sunday    | 85   | 51  | 00   |
| Monday    | 82   | 54  | 00   |
| Tuesday   | 84   | 56  | 00   |
| Wednesday | 81   | 60  | 01   |

Franklin Rainfall

(As recorded by Manson Stiles for TVA)  
Wednesday, none; Thursday, none; Friday, none; Saturday, none; Sunday, none; Monday, none; Tuesday, none; Wednesday, none.

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