

### 40-MAN DRAFT CALL RECEIVED BY BOARD HERE

#### Macon Given Biggest Quota, Following Emergency Move

The largest pre-induction call for Macon County men since the start of the Korean war was received this week by the local draft board, following on the heels of President Truman's declaration of a national emergency last Saturday.

The call for 40 men, to report for examinations in Charlotte January 26, arrived by mail Monday morning. Previous calls have numbered as high as 30 men, but the call this week constituted a new high for the county under the selective service act.

This week's call will boost the number of men ordered to report for examination, preliminary to induction into the army, to 150, since the board was reactivated in July.

An order for 30 men was received in August, 30 in September, 20 in October, and 30 more in November.

To date, only 35 men from this county have been inducted into the army out of the 110 who already have received pre-induction examinations.

The first group of selectees left November 30, and numbered 30 men. The second contingent, five men, reported to Charlotte for induction December 5.

In a speech Friday night, prior to announcing a state of national emergency, President Truman asked for a standing army of 3,500,000 men as a measure of defense against the growing Communist menace.

### Town's New Fire Siren Is Put To Work

Franklin's new fire siren, which was only installed Saturday morning, got the chance to show off its lusty lung-power twice—once in fun and once in dead earnest—since it ascended to its new perch on the telephone pole beside the fire house on 10th street.

After installation Saturday morning, firemen tried out the ear-piercing warning signal, which played havoc with the ear-drums of downtown shoppers.

Then Tuesday, at noon, the new siren voiced an alarm, this time the real thing. Firemen answered a call from the Franklin Feed mill to take care of an overheated motor. There was no damage to the mill, but the motor was a total loss.

Carl Tysinger, fire chief, asked the town board in November to order a new siren, explaining that the old one was inadequate, since many of the volunteer firemen were unable to hear it at night.

The old siren was a one-throated rig, but the new one has twin pipes.

The new siren cost \$378.13.

### Annual Christmas Van Raalte Party Attended By 150

Approximately 150 persons attended the annual Van Raalte Christmas party at the Slagle Memorial building Saturday night, given by the company fun committee, Kenneth Hooker, chairman, announced.

The night's festivities included a dinner, a visit from Santa Claus, exchange of gifts, Bingo, and square dancing, he said.

Other committee members were Mrs. Betty McCall, Miss Edith McCall, and Mrs. Margaret Neal.

### Mrs. Jones Named Guild Secretary For District

Mrs. Weimar Jones, of Franklin, has been named Wesleyan Service Guild secretary for the Waynesville Methodist district. Mrs. Jones was elected to the post by the various guilds in the district, and her election was announced at last week's meeting of the Franklin guild.

### 44 Elected To Serve PMA As Committeemen In '51

Forty-four persons were elected to serve as county and community committeemen in the Production Management Administration election last Thursday and Friday by Macon County farmers.

Chosen to serve on the county committee for the 1951 P.M.A. program were Hansel Benne, chairman, Jess Keener, vice-chairman, Carl Morgan, regular member, Owen Ammons, first alternate, and E. B. Byrd, second alternate.

Under the P.M.A. program, this county is divided into 13 communities. Each community

has a chairman, vice-chairman, and regular member, who make up a board for the respective communities, officials explained.

Those elected to serve as community committeemen are: North Franklin: Carlos Rogers, chairman, Marshal Fouts, vice-chairman, Verlon Poindexter, regular member.

Southeast Franklin: Charles A. Rogers, chairman, Lewis Vanhook, vice-chairman, Fred Ammons, regular member.

Southwest Franklin: R. D. Wells, chairman, Carl Angel, vice-chairman, Robert Carpen, regular member.

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### Franklin Stores To Be Open Till 9 On Friday Night

Members of the Franklin Merchants association have announced that they will remain open tomorrow (Friday) night until 9 o'clock, in order to give last-minute shoppers a chance to do their Christmas buying. All stores will be closed Christmas day, it was said, but will be open for business as usual Tuesday morning.

### Work On Schools Hampered By Cold; East Franklin Steel Here

Workers pouring concrete and laying brick at the new Nantahala, East Franklin, and Franklin schools have been seriously hampered in their work because of the cold snap which began Thanksgiving day, Guy L. Houk, county school superintendent, said this week.

"Since Thanksgiving," he said, explaining the difficulty involved in pouring concrete and laying brick when the temperature is below 40 degrees, "I would venture to say that the men have been able to work only about two days."

Mr. Houk announced that structural steel is being erected at the East Franklin school. The steel arrived last week, he said. Steel for the Franklin High school is expected this week, and preliminary steel work should begin by the first of the year.

### POST OFFICE HERE HANDLES RECORD MAIL

#### Clerks Cancel 13,000 Outgoing Letters In 48 Hours

The largest mail in the history of Macon County flooded into the Franklin post office Monday, causing postal clerks to work far into the night in an effort to stem the flow, according to Zeb Meadows, postmaster.

The bulk of heavy load was not incoming mail from other places, he said, but was outgoing mail from this county. The post office canceled more than 13,000 letters from 8 o'clock Saturday night to 8 Monday night, Mr. Meadows said. He said he had no idea of how many packages were mailed through the post office during the 24-hour rush-period, since no records are kept on parcel post.

The rural route mail carriers, who normally are finished with their day's work by noon, worked, along with the other clerks, until 10 o'clock Monday night to catch up with the mail, Mr. Meadows said.

The increased load, he pointed out, probably was indirectly caused by the railroad strike in the New England states and in the Chicago area. He explained that people probably held off mailing letters and packages to the strike-bound states, awaiting the outcome of the wage settlement in the "outlaw" strike.

Post offices were instructed to accept no mail going to the strike area, and Mr. Meadows said that approximately 25 persons here were refused mailing privileges Saturday because of the order, which was lifted Saturday night, after most of the strikers returned to work.

Henderson Calloway, acting assistant postmaster here, who has been with the post office for 29 years, declared that Monday's rush was the largest mail that he had seen in his 29 years with the department.

To help regular employees with the Christmas rush, Mr. Meadows said one extra man was hired until things return to normal.

### Yule Decoration Contest Judging Set For Saturday

Judging in the record annual home outdoor Christmas decoration contest, sponsored by the Franklin Garden club, will be held from 7 to 9 p. m. Saturday night, club officials announced this week.

Outdoor decorations will be judged on the basis of originality and general appearance, Mrs. B. L. McGlamery, contest committee chairman, said.

All homes in Franklin, and those within one mile of the town limits, will be judged. The judges, whose names have not been announced, will drive their cars around in the contest area, it was explained, and pick the

most attractively decorated homes.

There will be no prizes for the contest winners, Mrs. McGlamery pointed out, but first, second, and third place winners will be announced, and a number of honorable mentions given.

It is not planned, she said, to judge the interiors of homes. However, if any person wishes judges to see the interior of their home, they may make the arrangement by calling 163.

Members of the contest committee are Mrs. McGlamery, Mrs. J. H. Stockton, and Mrs. J. R. Ray.

### CANTATA DRAWS CAPACITY HOUSE

#### Community Choir Gives Annual Program Of Christmas Music

A county-wide audience that filled every available seat, with a number sitting in chairs along the aisle or standing, heard the annual Christmas cantata by the Community choir at the Franklin Methodist church Sunday evening.

The one-hour program, "The Music of Bethlehem," by Fred B. Norton, was directed by S. F. Beck, with Mrs. Henry W. Cabe as organist. The 26-voice choir was made up of members of the choirs of the Presbyterian, Episcopal, Baptist, and Methodist churches.

The Rev. C. E. Murray, pastor of the host church, welcomed the audience, and expressed appreciation for the inter-church cooperation that made the program possible.

The group, in choir robes, entered as Mrs. Cabe played "O Come Immanuel" as the processional hymn, and the Rev. M. W. Chapman, Baptist pastor, pronounced the invocation. The program follows: "Ring On, O Song," by the entire choir.

"A King Shall Reign," by the men's chorus.

"Song of Hope," by the choir and a quartet made up of S. Meadows, Mrs. Meadows, and

### Annual Midnight Service To Begin Saturday At 11:30

The annual Christmas midnight service at St. Agnes Episcopal church will begin at 11:30 o'clock Christmas Eve (Sunday) night, with the rector, the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, officiating.

The service will be marked by carol singing and celebration of the Holy Communion. The annual service always attracts a large number of persons of all denominations, and Mr. Morgan emphasized that all are invited.

Similar services will be conducted by Mr. Morgan at 6 a. m. Christmas day at St. Cyprian's (Negro) church here, and the Church of the Incarnation in Highlands at 9 a. m.

### Baptists Will Present Play Sunday Night

"Why Christmas?" a play written by Eleanor Brown, will be presented by members of the Franklin First Baptist church, Christmas Eve at 7 p. m. at the church, the Rev. M. W. Chapman, pastor, has announced.

The play is being directed by Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Clarence Henry. Mrs. Alba Price is in charge of scenery, Herman Plemmmons, lighting, and Mrs. Bill Bryson, music.

Members of the cast are Verlon Swafford, Mrs. George Cook, Elbert Angel, Eddie Reece, Miss Nancy Angel, Mrs. Howard Stewart, Clarence Henry, Ronnie Mason, Miss Beverly Bryson, Jimmy Rogers, Alfred Higdon, Jr., Bobby Tysinger, and Richard Dryman.

### Dr. F. Angel Heads Medical Society Of Two Counties

Dr. Furman Angel was elected president of the Medical Society of Macon and Clay counties at a dinner meeting of the organization at Cagle's cafe Friday evening.

Dr. Joseph W. Kahn was chosen as secretary-treasurer, and Dr. Frank M. Killian was named as the society's delegate to the meeting of the North Carolina Medical society, to be held at Pinehurst.

The group voted to invite the bloodmobile to come to Macon County to collect blood, but with the proviso that the blood so collected shall be used exclusively for members of the armed forces.

One new member, Dr. C. E. Townsend, who recently moved to Highlands, was admitted.

### This Week's Cancer Clinic At Sylva Is Canceled

The regular Friday cancer clinic at the C. J. Harris Community hospital in Sylva for this week has been canceled, it was announced yesterday.

The next clinic is scheduled for Friday, December 29. Registration hours at the Friday clinics are 9 to 10:15 a. m. The free clinic is operated by the division of cancer control of the N. C. Board of Health, and the clinic at Sylva serves Macon as well as Jackson county.

**PLAN PROGRAM AT COWEE**  
The Cowee Baptist church will present its annual Christmas program tonight (Thursday) at 7 o'clock.

### COMMUNITY IS READY TO MARK BIRTH OF JESUS

#### Cantatas, Plays, Other Church, Home, Social Events Under Way

The Christmas season, much in the same vein as past ones, finds Macon County people celebrating, or preparing to celebrate, the birth of Christ, just as those who gathered around a tiny manger in Bethlehem, many years ago.

Christmas plays, cantatas, midnight services, caroling, Christmas decoration contests, and bright-eyed children, all prove that it is Christmas.

Hand-in-hand with yuletide festivities walk a number of other good signs that bear out the arrival of Christmas, 1950. There's a nip in the air—it was 4 above Tuesday—making overcoats and mufflers standard equipment for Christmas shoppers, and post office employees are working overtime to keep their heads above the more than prodigious flood of Christmas cards and packages labeled "Do Not Open 'Til Christmas."

The Christmas spirit appears to be running rampant through Macon County.

Sunday night, a community choral group presented a stirring Christmas cantata to a more than capacity crowd at the Methodist church.

The Franklin Garden club, for the second year, is planning an outdoor Christmas home decoration contest, and judging will be done Saturday night.

"Why Christmas?" being presented by members of the Franklin First Baptist church, will fall under the Christmas Eve spotlight at 7 o'clock.

The annual Christmas midnight service, conducted by the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, at the St. Agnes Episcopal church, church, will be held at 11:30 o'clock Christmas Eve night.

Mr. Morgan also will conduct similar services Christmas day at the St. Cyprian (Negro) church at 6 a. m. and at the Church of the Incarnation in Highlands at 9 a. m.

And caroling too! The Franklin High school chorus will make the rounds through town Christmas Eve night, to add the final touch of Christmas spirit before Old St. Nick starts.

### Post Office Will Be Open All Day Saturday

For the convenience of patrons, the Franklin post office will be open all day Saturday, the last week-day before Christmas. Postmaster Zeb Meadows announced this week. Post office hours are 8:30 a. m. to 5:30 p. m. Windows at the post office will be closed all day Christmas day (Monday).

### Fredrick Corbin Named To Honorary Fraternity

Fredrick Corbin, of Franklin, a senior at Wake Forest college, was one of seven new members initiated into Beta Beta Beta, a national honorary fraternity for students in the field of biology, at a recent meeting of the organization at Wake Forest. It has been learned.

### Presbyterians To Hold Watch Night Service

A Watch Night service will be held at the Presbyterian church, December 31, from 11 to 12 p. m. the Rev. Hoyt Evans, pastor, announced this week. The service is planned especially for the young people in the community, he said.

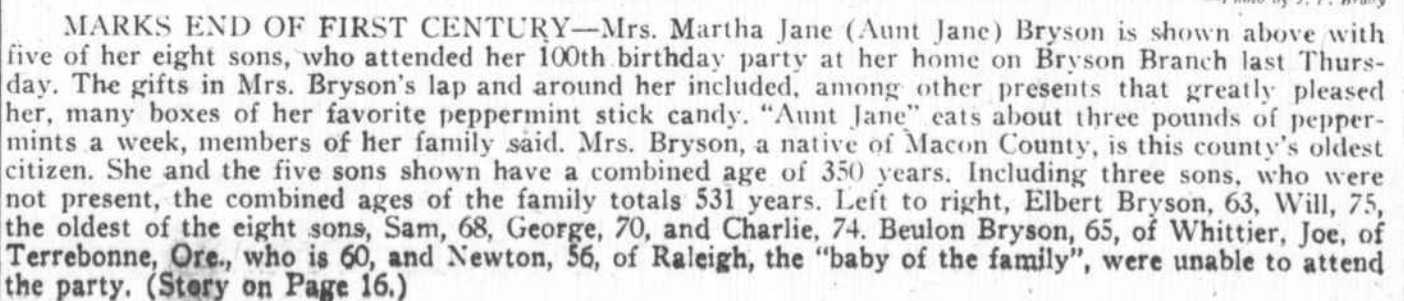
### The Weather

Temperatures and precipitation for the past seven days and the 24-hour forecast for yesterday, as recorded at the Coweeta Experiment station.

	High	Low	Pct.
Wednesday	42	13	00
Thursday	38	22	00
Friday	46	18	trace
Saturday	50	16	00
Sunday	42	20	00
Monday	37	9	00
Tuesday	38	4	00
Wednesday	40	12	00

Franklin Rainfall

As recorded by Macon Station (TVA)  
Wednesday, none; Thursday, none; Friday, none; Saturday, none; Sunday, none; Monday, none; Tuesday, none; Wednesday, none.



—Photo by J. P. Brady

**MARKS END OF FIRST CENTURY**—Mrs. Martha Jane (Aunt Jane) Bryson is shown above with five of her eight sons, who attended her 100th birthday party at her home on Bryson Branch last Thursday. The gifts in Mrs. Bryson's lap and around her included, among other presents that greatly pleased her, many boxes of her favorite peppermint stick candy. "Aunt Jane" eats about three pounds of peppermints a week, members of her family said. Mrs. Bryson, a native of Macon County, is this county's oldest citizen. She and the five sons shown have a combined age of 350 years. Including three sons, who were not present, the combined ages of the family totals 531 years. Left to right, Elbert Bryson, 63, Will, 75, the oldest of the eight sons, Sam, 68, George, 70, and Charlie, 74. Beulon Bryson, 65, of Whittier, Joe, of Terrebonne, Ore., who is 60, and Newton, 56, of Raleigh, the "baby of the family", were unable to attend the party. (Story on Page 16.)