

IS INSTALLING DIAL SYSTEM IN HIGHLANDS

Phone Firm Planning To Switch Over Next Month

The dial system telephone equipment for the Highlands exchange has arrived, and installation was begun last week, Russell E. McKelvey, general manager of the Western Carolina Telephone company, has announced.

He expects to complete installation of the new equipment in time to switch the Highlands exchange over to the dial system early in April.

The Highlands project is a part of a system-wide expansion and improvement program that the company, which has headquarters here, originally estimated would cost \$195,000. With increasing costs of materials and labor, however, the original estimate probably will prove too low, Mr. McKelvey said.

The change from the common battery to the dial system in Highlands will cost between \$40,000 and \$45,000, Mr. McKelvey said. The figure on the central office equipment he put at \$26,000, and the change to the dial system means that a new instrument must be installed at each of the 230 stations served by the Highlands exchange.

Highlands long distance calls will continue to be handled

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Club Lists 1,605 Events On Calendar

Response to the Lions club community birthday calendar project was "excellent", Ted Reber, project chairman, said Saturday when the fund raising drive ended and final results were tabulated.

Listings of birthdays, anniversaries, and club meetings, totaled 1,605, and 404 calendars were sold. The Lions club netted \$950 from the drive, the chairman said, the majority of which will be used to purchase new instruments for the Franklin band.

Response to the birthday calendar, considering that this was the first time the project had been tried here, was exceptional. By way of illustrating the success of the venture here, Mr. Reber pointed out various other communities the size of Franklin which failed to obtain more than 200 listings the first year.

The calendars will be ready for distribution by June 15. The calendar year will run from July 1, 1951 through June 30, 1952. A person whose name appears on the calendar on their birth date will receive more than \$5 in prizes from local merchants who contracted space on the calendar.

The club plans to order an additional 100 calendars which will be put on sale to benefit those who failed to purchase one during the drive.

Jack Angel led all workers by selling 511 listings and 87 calendars. Ken Hooker was high among team captains with 80 listings and 31 calendars. Both of the Lions will be presented with gold pencils at the clubs next meeting, Mr. Reber said.

Farmers

And Farm Women Plan Joint Meetings

Joint meetings with farmers and farm women in Macon County communities for the coming week have been announced by the county farm and home demonstration agents.

Men and women are urged to attend the meeting closest to their community. A feature of the meetings is the showing of a motion picture.

This week's meetings are as follows: Today (Thursday) Otto school; Friday, Union Methodist church; Monday, Prentiss Baptist church; Tuesday, Hickory Knoll Methodist church; Wednesday, Dryman's chapel; Thursday, Oak Grove Baptist church.

Hendersonville Got Over-Age Tip From Anonymous Letter; Moses Makes Sworn Statement

Declares He Told No School; Explains Phone Call

Carl D. Moses, principal and basketball coach of the Otter Creek (Nantahala) High school, this week made public a sworn statement that he did not "report the ineligibility of any Franklin" basketball player, and that the only telephone call he has made recently from Estes Service station was to T. C. Roberson, Buncombe county school superintendent.

At the same time, Mr. Moses made public a sworn statement by Mr. Roberson to the effect that nothing in that conversation "was said concerning the eligibility of any player". The conversation, Mr. Roberson's statement explained, dealt with the possibility of Nantahala's entering its girls' team in the Tournament of Champions, being played in Asheville this week.

Mr. Moses' action followed widespread speculation as to who furnished the information to Hendersonville High school on which that school based the protest that resulted in barring Franklin from the state play-offs at Duke university last week-end. Franklin was barred from that tournament when Hendersonville obtained a certified copy of the birth certificate of Jack Norton, Franklin center. The certificate shows Norton's birth date as April 2, 1930, thus making him 20 years of age—too old to play under conference and state rules.

In connection with that speculation, there have been reports that Mr. Moses placed a long distance telephone call from Estes station shortly before the Franklin team was declared ineligible.

Mr. Moses' signed statement, sworn and subscribed to before Don L. Henry, notary public, March 13, follows:

"To Whom It May Concern: "Although I would have been justified in reporting the ineligibility of players on an opposing team, this is to certify that I have neither by phone, word of mouth, or telephone reported the ineligibility of any Franklin player. All I did ended in Mr. Houk's office.

"The accompanying letter relates to the only phone call that I have made from Estes Service station since February 8 pertaining to sports in any way."

(Mr. Moses telephoned The Press yesterday to say that the phrase "by phone, word of mouth, or telephone" was a typographical error; that it should have read "by phone, word of mouth, or letter.")

The sentence, "all I did ended in Mr. Houk's office", presumably refers to Mr. Moses' presenting a certified copy of Norton's birth certificate to G. L. Houk, Macon County school superintendent, and pointing out that Norton was over-age. That was on February 23, two days after Franklin had defeated Nantahala, and two days before Franklin played and defeated Hendersonville at Spindale.

Mr. Roberson's signed statement was sworn and subscribed

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Will Require All Athletes To Give Birth Date Proof

Any Macon County boy or girl trying out for a high school athletic team in future must first present the principal of the school with a certified copy of his or her birth certificate.

This procedure was ordered by the county board of education Monday.

The motion was made by Bob Sloan, seconded by Frank Browning, and passed unanimously.

21 ATHLETES GET LETTERS

Franklin Declines Play In Asheville; Age Lowered Year

Coach Milburn Atkins presented 51 letters to Franklin High school athletes, cheerleaders, and team managers yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon in a farewell address to the student body of the school.

The coach leaves this week-end for Knoxville, Tenn., where he plans to enter the University of Tennessee and complete his master's degree.

The following received monographs as principal actors in the school's sports play during the past season:

Football: George R. Pattillo, Richard Mashburn, Richard Jones, Charles Thomas, Wayne Stewart, John Alsop, Frank Deal, George Brown, Zeb MeHaffey, Charles Cabe, Jack Norton, Carroll Childers, John Archer, III, Paul Killian, Frank

Nantahala lassies, county champs, walloped the Clearmont girls, 53 to 38, Tuesday night in the opening round of the Tournament of Champions in Asheville.

Henry, III, Charles Norton, Henderson Huggins, Bill Waldrop, and Kermit Dehart.

Basketball (boys): Charles (Bo) Norton, Richard Jones Gene Stamey, Ted Stamey, L. A. Moore, Andrew Moses, Tommy Raby, Mac Lewis, and Carroll Keener.

Basketball (girls): Birdie Sue Carpenter, Betty Lee Moore Shirley Dean, Carolyn Bryson Grace Setser, Jean Setser, Connaee Nolen, Annette Dalrymple Dorothy Medlin.

Team Managers: Wilma Renshaw, Connie Potts, Joe Patton, and Junior Dills.

Cheerleaders: Carolyn Bryson, Shirley Dean, Pauline Dills, Julia Hunnicutt, Betty L. Constance, and Wilma Renshaw.

The Franklin basketballers, who were recently disqualified from the state tournament because of an over-age player, declined to enter the Tournament of Champions, which is underway in Asheville this week.

Although eligible to play in the cage classic as county champions, team members decided to "let the sleeping dog lie" following the teams' ineligibility to enter the state tournament.

First Information Came From Cullowhee, Says Henderson Official

Hendersonville High school received its first tip that Jack Norton, Franklin High basketball player, might be over-age in an anonymous letter.

That fact was disclosed by Henry M. Davis, principal of the Hendersonville school, in a telephone call to The Press.

The letter, typewritten on plain paper and inclosed in a plain envelope, was mailed at Cullowhee, and the postmark bore the date of March 4. It suggested that a "persistent rumor" that Jack Norton was over-age be investigated.

Mr. Davis called The Press last Thursday, explaining that he had heard the disqualification of the Franklin basketball team from participation in last week's state play-offs at Duke university had created "some friction between Macon County schools", and that he wished to assure the public here that his school had received no information, in person, by letter, or by telephone, from Macon County.

The Hendersonville school authorities subsequently received a number of tips, by mail and by telephone, he said, to the effect that a Franklin player might be over-age, but it was the anonymous letter that brought Mr. Davis to Franklin the following Monday (March 5) to check young Norton's birth certificate.

The Franklin team won the right to enter the state finals by defeating first Hickory and then Hendersonville in the regional tournament at Soindale Friday and Saturday, March 2 and 3.

Following receipt of the anonymous letter, however, Mr. Davis came to Franklin and obtained a certified copy of Jack Norton's birth certificate, which shows him to be 20 years of age. On the basis of that birth certificate, he filed the protest with L. J. Perry, N. C. High School Athletic association secretary, at Chapel Hill. The following morning, Mr. Perry called R. G. Sutton, Franklin High principal, and asked that Franklin withdraw from the tournament. Mr. Sutton complied.

Mr. Davis expressed regret for the incident. He said when it became generally known in Hendersonville that there was a question about the eligibility of a Franklin player, pressure immediately developed for him to investigate.

The unsigned letter bearing the Cullowhee postmark read: "It is not my wish to carry gossip, nor to muddy any of the still waters, but I have heard a rumor that may interest you, and may be old news. There is a rather persistent rumor that one of the Norton brothers on the Franklin team is over the age limit, and I believe it refers to Jack, but it could be the other one.

If this is true, it would give you grounds for a protest on the results of the game Saturday night. This rumor could be verified by calling the bureau of vital statistics in Raleigh."

Red Cross Drive Total To Date Stands At \$900

Contributions to the Red Cross drive this week totaled approximately \$900 as workers canvassed the county in an effort to put Macon County over the top of its \$2,836 goal by the end of the month.

Mrs. J. Ward Long, chapter secretary, said donations were probably higher than the figure, since bad weather had prevented a number of county workers from reporting contributions.

Will Hold Revival

The Rev. C. E. Murray, pastor of the Franklin Methodist church, will conduct a week of revival services at Carson's Chapel beginning Sunday night. Services will begin at 7:30 each night. The public is invited to attend.

MEN ENTERING SERVICE TO GET PRESS AS GIFT

Veterans Organizations To Give Paper To All Leaving

Hereafter, all Macon County men who enter the armed forces will be presented a one-year subscription to The Franklin Press, as a "going-away" gift, by the veterans organizations here.

Officers of the three service organizations—Macon Post No. 108, American Legion, Macon Memorial Post No. 7339, Veterans of Foreign Wars—at a conference last Thursday night voted to send The Press to all Macon men departing to enter the service.

This week Highlands Memorial Post No. 370, American Legion, announced it would join in the project.

In making the announcement, it was emphasized that the plan is designed to apply to reservists and volunteers, as well as selectees. While the names of selectees are easily obtainable from the local draft board, it was pointed out that it is more difficult to learn what reservists are called back to duty, or what men volunteer, and the group asked for co-operation on this point. Reservists and volunteers, or their relatives, are asked to notify the local V. F. W. or Legion posts, so that gift certificates may be presented to these men also.

Another project, to provide air mail postage for all copies of The Press going to Macon servicemen overseas, with a view to speeding delivery, was discussed, but action was deferred. The cost would be about \$9 a year, per man, and the veterans organizations felt they were not in financial position at this time to go ahead with this idea. Approximately 30 Macon men are now on the overseas mailing list of The Press.

It was decided, when a Macon man leaves here for the service, to present him a gift certificate, entitling him to a year's subscription to the paper. Then, when he is assigned to a unit and a semi-permanent address, he will send a printed card, also to be furnished him, filled in with his name and address. When he mails this card back to The Press, the subscription will be started.

The veterans posts here in the past have shown all departing selectees some gesture of appreciation. One group was given a dinner, and each member of groups leaving recently has been presented a billfold. This gift of a one-year Press subscription to those leaving in the future is a continuation of that policy.

Those attending Thursday night's conference, in addition to Post Commanders E. W. Renshaw, of the Legion, and Frank Plyler, of the V. F. W. were James A. Carroll, T. L. Jamison, Cecil Parker, Paschal Norton, Lon Dalton, John Crawford, E. J. Carpenter, Jr., and John Gibson Murray.

Church To Sponsor Bake Sale Friday Morning

The St. Agnes Episcopal Auxiliary will sponsor a bake sale tomorrow (Friday) morning at the Children's shop at 9 o'clock.

Finish Plans For Dawn Service On Wayah Bald

(Also see story on Page 9) The age-old but ever-new Easter promise of hope, in word and song, will echo across the valleys from mile-high Wayah Bald Sunday week.

It will be the fourth annual interdenominational Easter sunrise service on Wayah.

The service is set for 6:25 a. m.

As usual, the service will be simple—a brief talk, prayer, and vocal and instrumental music; its simplicity emphasized by the spectacular beauty of the setting. As the sky reddens above the towering peaks to the east, the valleys below still filled with darkness and fog, the triumphant notes of Easter music will open the service.

Audiences in past years have been made up of persons of all denominations, and persons who

Bids Above Money Left For Schools

Mrs. Bolton Named Worthy Matron Of Eastern Star

Mrs. Claude Bolton will be installed this evening as the new worthy matron of the Nequassa chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Mrs. Bolton and other officers were elected at a meeting of the chapter a fortnight ago. The other elected officers are: Ed Whitaker, reelected worthy patron; Mrs. Jim Cunningham, associate matron; James L. Hauser, reelected associate patron; Mrs. Frank I. Murray, reelected secretary; Mrs. Rumby Ray, reelected treasurer; Mrs. Rufus Snyder, conductress; and Mrs. Will Parrish, associate conductress.

All the officers, elective and appointive, will be installed at a public ceremony at the Slagle Memorial building at 8:15 o'clock tonight.

Plan Revival In 31 Baptist Churches Here

Macon County's 31 Baptist churches are presently making plans for a simultaneous revival, along with other Southern Baptist churches east of the Mississippi river, which will run from March 25 to April 8, the Rev. M. W. Chapman, pastor of the Franklin church, announced this week.

In preparation for the county-wide revival, study courses on evangelism and soul-winning prayer meetings in the churches and homes, and rallies among men, women, and young people have been under way since the first of the year.

As a preliminary to the revival, Mr. Chapman announced that prayer meetings will be held in Baptist homes throughout the county, starting Monday. The home prayer meetings will be conducted by districts. On Wednesday, prayer meetings will be held at the churches.

Following is a schedule of home meetings. The first two names in each district represent the chairman and deacon of the district, respectively. The name following the day of the week is the home at which the meeting will be held.

District 1: Mrs. Paul Carpenter and Paul Carpenter. Monday, Mrs. John Moore; Tuesday Mrs. Earl Ward; Thursday, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Cook; Friday, Mr. and Mrs. George Dean.

District 2: Mrs. Charlie Pradley and M. L. Styles. Monday, Mr. and Mrs. George Elliot; Tuesday, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bradley; Thursday, Mrs. Alice Rimmer; Friday, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Conley.

District 3: Mrs. Lee Wood and W. A. Hays. Monday, Mrs. Lena Arnold; Tuesday, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Huscusson; Thursday, Miss Catherine Crisp; Friday, Mr. and Lee Wood.

District 4: Mrs. John Archer and Earl Henson. Monday, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Roland; Tuesday, Mr. and Mrs. John Jones; Friday, Mr. and Mrs. John Jones; Friday, Mr. and Mrs. John Jones.

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Board Defers Action On 3 Structures Till Monday

The Macon County board of education Monday opened bids on the construction of the Cartoogehaye, Iotia, and Union schools, found that the bids totaled more than the money available, and deferred action for one week.

It was brought out in the discussion of the low bids that enough money is available to build the classrooms at the three schools, plus auditoriums, or the classrooms, plus cafeterias.

This would not leave any money, however, for the Franklin school auditorium and for the Negro school, the other two projects in the county-wide building program.

Faced with this problem, the board members voted to take a week to study the situation, and to give citizens, especially in the communities affected, time to express themselves. The board will meet again Monday at 10 a. m.

County Superintendent G. L. Houk said the bids on general construction, plumbing, heating, and electrical work for the three schools, including auditoriums and cafeterias and kitchens, totaled \$313,077.

After it has completed payment for the four schools—Nantahala, Highlands, Franklin high and East Franklin elementary—now under construction, the board will have approximately \$248,000 left from the \$514,000 county school building bond issue. It also has about \$12,000 remaining from the \$361,000 state school building grant, making a total available for these three buildings of \$260,000.

The board also has a fund of \$25,000 or \$30,000, accumulated from court fines and forfeitures, etc. In discussing this fund this week, however, Mr. Houk suggested that it would be needed for equipment for the new buildings and for grassing and other wise landscaping the grounds.

The four schools now under contract will cost about \$5.82 per square foot of floor space, it was pointed out at the meeting, whereas the low bids submitted Monday for the three additional

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Evans To Conduct Series Of Special Preaching Services

The Rev. Hoyt Evans announced this week that he will conduct a week of special preaching services at the Franklin Presbyterian church, beginning Sunday morning.

The general subject of the series will be, "Jesus Christ, the Author and Finisher."

The first service will be held Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, and one will be conducted each night at 7:30 o'clock through Friday of next week. The 11 o'clock service Sunday morning, March 25, will conclude the series.

OPEN BIDS

Bids for the construction of the proposed new Nantahala Power and Light company of building here were scheduled to be opened in Pittsburgh yesterday at noon.

PLAN YOUTH RALLY

A county-wide youth rally, sponsored by the Macon County Baptist Training union, will be held at the First Baptist church, Saturday evening at 7:30, it has been announced.

The Weather

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

	High	Low	Pct.
Wednesday	72	48	.05
Thursday	74	46	trace
Friday	68	30
Saturday	49	34
Sunday	45	37	.58
Monday	44	40	.17
Tuesday	37	33	.35
Wednesday	22	trace

(As recorded by Macon Times for TVA) Wednesday, 1.16; Thursday, .04; Friday, none; Saturday, none; Sunday, .52; Monday, .46; Tuesday, .21; Wednesday, .10, 1/4" snow.