

POOL ROOM MAY BE PADLOCKED BY TOWN BOARD

Aldermen Defer Action Until Owner Can Be Given Hearing

Commenting on an increasing number of citizen complaints about gambling and drinking, the Franklin board of aldermen Monday night took steps to padlock the Franklin Amusement parlor.

The board plans to invite Fred Cabe, owner and operator of the parlor, to appear at its February session to show cause why the establishment should not be closed and license revoked. The combination pool parlor-refreshment stand is situated in the basement of the McCoy building.

Discussion prior to the board's move to padlock the parlor centered on complaints reported to the town office. Aldermen commented that "too many teenagers are making it their headquarters."

The town clerk was instructed to notify Mr. Cabe of the action and to invite him to the board's next regular meeting, February 4.

Mayor Robert M. Dillard and Town Clerk C. O. Ramsey both were absent from the brief session because of illness. Vice-Mayor Verlon Swafford presided.

James and Phil McCollum appeared to report a faulty sewer line at the home of Mrs. E. B. McCollum. Immediate corrective measures were ordered by the board.

W. H. Hedden

Highlands Man, Dies; Rites Held Tuesday

William Edward Hedden, a 61-year-old Highlands resident, died Sunday at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. E. Mulder, in Eustis, Fla.

Mr. Hedden went to Florida about two months ago to spend the winter. He had been ill about two weeks.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday at 2 p. m. at the Macedonia Baptist church at Satolah, Ga., by the Rev. Frank Reed. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Born in Rabun County, Ga., Mr. Hedden was the son of Bennett E. and Mrs. Mary Harris Hedden. He had lived in Highlands most of his life, where he worked as a lumberman. He was a member of the Macedonia church.

Surviving are a son, Henry Hedden, of Highlands; three daughters, Mrs. Mulder and Miss Dora Hedden, of Eustis, and Mrs. Howard Johnson, of Highlands; three sisters, Mrs. Edith Long, of Longview, Wash., and Mrs. Fred Reed and Mrs. Ed Talley, both of Satolah, Ga.; and seven grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Curt Wilson, Luther Johnson, Arthur Rogers, Bill Steed, Frank Crane, and Luther Crawford.

Arrangements were under the direction of Bryant Funeral home.

After Four Years In Berlin, Macon Man Coming Home

Sgt. First Class Gaston Clark, who has been in Berlin, Germany, for the past four years, will leave Berlin January 13, and is scheduled to arrive at home early in February, his father, D. L. Clark, Sr., has learned.

Sgt. Clark has served a total of nearly eight years in the army, having been on duty in the South Pacific during World War 2.

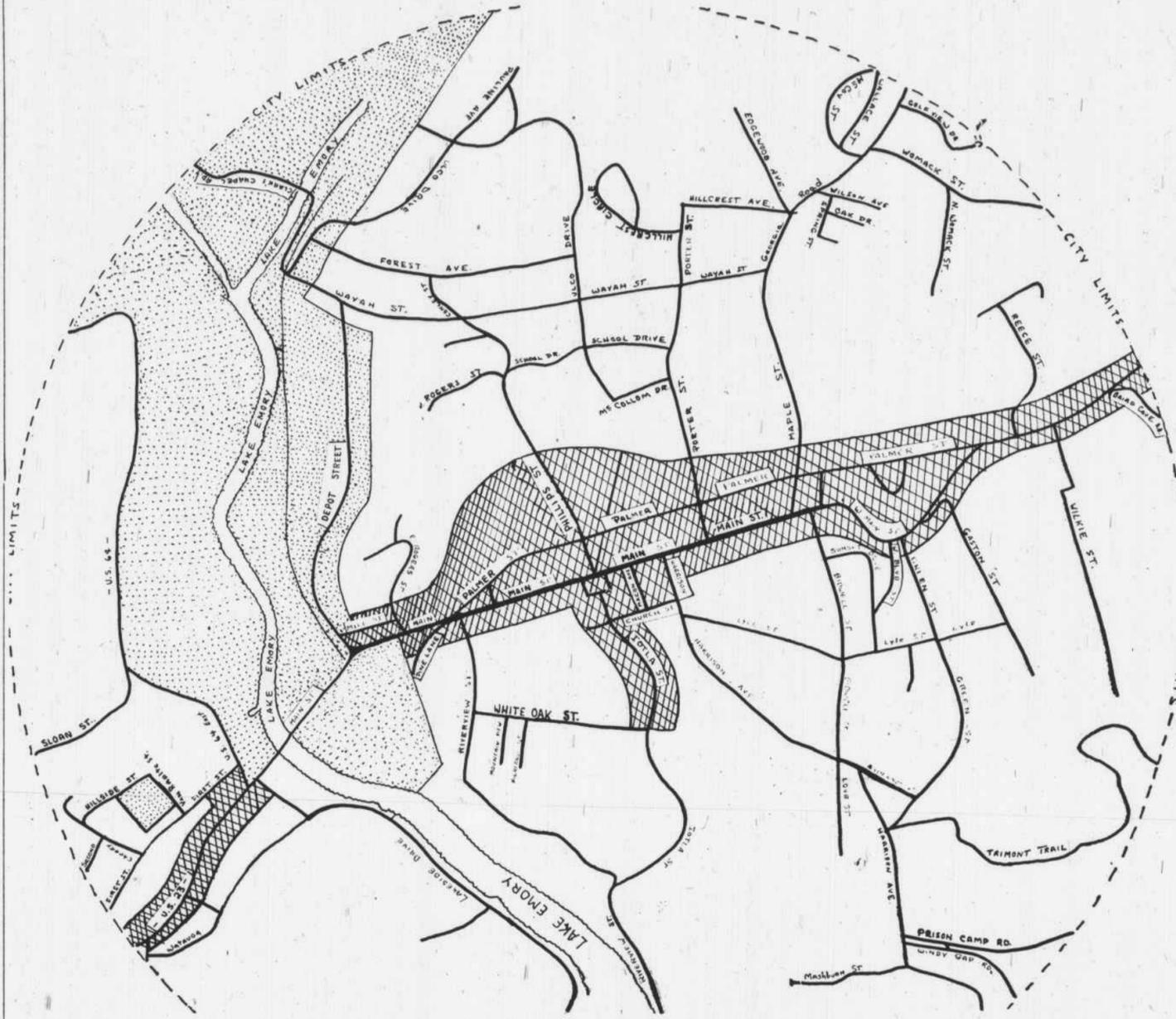
He last signed up for three years, but at the end of that time was "frozen" in service for another year.

After a visit home, he expects to be stationed somewhere in the South.

PLAN SING

The second Sunday sing of the southern division of the Macon County Singing convention will be held at the Longview Baptist church, two miles south of Franklin on U. S. 23, at 1:30 p. m., President Tom Henson has announced. All singers are invited to attend, he said.

Here's Proposed Plan For Zoning Franklin



Zoning plans for Franklin will be presented to the public by the five-man zoning commission Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock at the Macon courthouse. Above is a map showing the proposed zoning areas, as outlined by the commission. The cross-hatched area represents the commercial or business area; the dotted section, the industrial area; and the white areas, the

residential sections. Members of the commission suggested this week that Franklin citizens clip out the above map and take it to Tuesday's meeting. If citizens will do this, they explained, it will enable the commission to more readily present the proposed plan to the large number expected to attend.

Plan Public Meet Tuesday On Zone Plan

Franklin's five-man zoning and planning commission will publicly explain its proposed zoning plan for the town at a special meeting Tuesday night at 7:30 o'clock at the courthouse.

All Franklin residents are invited to attend the session and present their views on the proposal.

The public hearing has been called expressly to receive public opinion, favorable or otherwise, so that the commission can then proceed with the drawing of a fair and just zoning ordinance, according to Commission Chairman W. N. Sloan.

Once minor points in question are ironed out, the chairman said, the commission can then present a finished zoning ordinance to the board of aldermen for official approval.

The commission explained preliminary plans to the town governing body at the December board meeting, and at that time set the date for the public hearing.

Other members of the commission are W. Roy Carpenter, H. H. Plemmons, R. E. McKelvey, and Wayne Faulkner. The body was set-up by the board of aldermen in July.

A map, showing the proposed zoning boundaries in the town, appears in this issue of the Press.

Macon's Baptist Pastors, In Letter To Truman, Protest Rome Appointment

Contending that the recent appointment of Gen. Mark W. Clark as ambassador to the Vatican is the first step toward the destruction of religious freedom in the United States, Baptist ministers in Macon County have registered a formal protest with President Harry S. Truman.

The protest, approved by the Macon County Baptist Ministerial conference at a meeting in December, was mailed to the president last Thursday. Copies also were sent to three congressmen.

Mailing of the protest was delayed until just prior to the recovering of congress after the holidays, since the general's appointment is expected to be voted upon early in the session, the Rev. M. W. Chapman, pastor of the First Baptist church, explained Monday. Congress convened Tuesday.

In addition to President Truman, copies of the protest were mailed to the North Carolina senators, Clyde R. Hoey and Willis Smith, and Sen. Tom Connally (D-Tex.), chairman of the senate foreign relations committee. Senator Connally has publicly voiced disapproval of the Clark nomination.

Pastors of this county's 42 Baptist churches expressed the opinion that the appointment destroys certain guarantees in the constitution and the Bill of Rights, because it creates an official relationship between government and a particular church.

The full text of the letter follows:

"The members of the Baptist Ministerial conference, Macon County, North Carolina, representing 42 Baptist churches that cooperate with the Baptist State convention of North Carolina, the Southern Baptist convention, and the Baptist World Alliance, do hereby register protest concerning the appointment of an ambassador to the Vatican by the United States.

"With deep regret, dismay, and appeal we received the news that General Mark W. Clark had been appointed United States ambassador to the Vatican. We are writing congressional leaders to the effect that we disapprove the appointment of any person to represent the United States as ambassador to the Vatican. We believe such an arrangement violates the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights. We believe it destroys certain guarantees provided for in the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights. We believe it creates an official relationship between government and a particular church. We believe it establishes a relationship in which the official processes of government are interlocked with the official processes of a particular church. We believe it allows a particular church special privileges which no other church enjoys. We believe it grants a power or influence of a particular church over the government of the United States. We believe it trends toward or

United States. We believe it trends toward or pertains to the establishment of a church-state government in the United States. We believe it to be the first step toward the destruction of religious freedom which is now enjoyed by the "American Way of Life". We believe that citizens of the United States should not be asked to support with tax-paid money such a church-state relationship. We believe such an appointment violates the Constitution of the United States and the Bill of Rights in the same way as it would should the government of the United States send an official ambassador to the Baptist World Alliance, the Southern Baptist convention, the General Methodist Conference of the United States, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, or to any other religious gathering in the United States or elsewhere.

"Baptists have been advocates and supporters of the principle of separation of church and state from the very beginning of our national history. Our government and church relationship has proven to be more satisfactory and more successful than that of any of our world history. We believe of the vast majority of American citizens appreciate the church-state relationship that we have enjoyed through the years.

"We believe that the vast majority of American citizens join us in a desire to see this relationship continued. We believe it trends toward or pertains to the establishment of a particular religion in the

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600 Attend Final Rites For Cochran

An estimated 600 persons—about half the number standing in the church yard—attended funeral services for William Homer Cochran, Jr., the 24-year-old White Plains agricultural teacher who died December 31 in Mount Airy after a mysterious explosion ripped through his pick-up truck as he left for work.

He was the son of Policeman and Mrs. W. H. Cochran, of the Patton community.

Services, held last Thursday afternoon at the Patton Methodist church, were conducted by the Rev. R. L. Poindexter, pastor of the West Macon circuit, and the Rev. M. W. Chapman, pastor of the First Baptist church. Burial was in Woodlawn cemetery, Franklin.

A capacity crowd filled the small church, and several hundred others stood in the church yard during the services.

Hundreds of friends, shocked by the slaying of the Macon County youth, visited Potts Funeral home from the time of the body's arrival from Mount Airy last Wednesday until the funeral hour.

Floral arrangements filled the funeral home—the largest number for any funeral handled by the home since it was established 11 years ago, according to Paul Potts, director.

Young Cochran was a graduate of Franklin High school and N. C. State college, Raleigh. He was agricultural teacher at

REWARD FUND IN COCHRAN'S DEATH SOUGHT

Macon Organizations, Persons Invited To Contribute

Investigation of the mystery slaying of a 24-year-old Macon County youth moved from Surry County to Macon this week, and at the same time a move was afoot locally to post a reward for information leading to the murderer.

The youth, William Homer Cochran, Jr., agricultural teacher at White Plains High school, died in a Mount Airy hospital December 31 from injuries received when a mysterious explosion ripped through his pick-up truck as he left for work.

An agent of the state bureau of investigation and a Mount Airy police captain were Franklin Sunday checking the young Cochran's background. They returned to Surry County, where the slaying occurred the same day.

A movement to raise a substantial reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the teacher's slayer is now under way here. Surry County citizens already have raised \$2,500 and Gov. W. K. Scott last Thursday offered an additional \$400 reward in a special executive proclamation. The rewards do not extend to peace officers.

At noon yesterday (Wednesday) the total given to the fund here was nearing the \$500 mark, it was learned at the sheriff's office.

Local citizens wishing to contribute to the reward may do so at the sheriff's office in courthouse. Any pledge, regardless of the amount, will be welcomed, Sheriff Thomas said.

Young Cochran died some 13 hours after the explosion, which blew off one of his legs and necessitated the later amputation of the other.

Neither the high school teacher nor his bride of four months could furnish officers a motive for the crime. The truck was parked behind the couple's apartment in Mount Airy.

Services for Mr. Cochran, who taught in the Surry County school for three years, were held at the Patton Methodist church here January 3.

Following is a copy of the reward pledge being circulated here:

"We the undersigned hand to you herewith the amount set opposite our names and ask that you hold the same and offer the same as a reward to any person, except law enforcement officers, who will furnish evidence sufficient to convict the person or persons who caused the death of William Cochran, Jr., at Mt. Airy, North Carolina, by placing some explosive in his truck.

"If some person is apprehended within six months from this date, you will then be paid this money until he is tried and if then convicted you are authorized to give the same."

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School Fund Nets \$2,975 From Court Term In December

The December term of superior court here netted school fund \$2,975.75, according to Miss Kate McGee, clerk of court.

By law, fines and forfeitures, solicitor fees, and jury tax are earmarked for the school fund. A break-down of the total follows: Fines and forfeitures, \$2,511.75; solicitor fees, \$288; and jury tax, \$176.

The Weather

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

	High	Low	Precip.
Wednesday	72	40	0.00
Thursday	67	43	0.00
Friday	46	44	0.00
Saturday	59	32	1.00
Sunday	33	24	0.00
Monday	50	16	0.00
Tuesday	57	24	0.00
Wednesday	47	24	0.00

Franklin Rainfall
Wednesday, none; Thursday, trace; Friday, none; Saturday, .53; Sunday, none; Monday, none; Tuesday, trace; Wednesday, trace.