

BAPTISTS HOLD CEREMONY HERE ON CHURCH SITE

Break Ground For New \$240,000 Building Monday Night

A ground-breaking ceremony was held early Monday evening on the site of the future \$240,000 First Baptist church by church officers and some 50 members of the congregation.

The special ceremony was held on the Baptist-owned lot at the intersection of West Main street and US 23, where church members propose to erect a three-story church as soon as funds are available.

Among those turning the first shovels of dirt were Gus Baldwin, Sunday School superintendent, Mrs. W. N. Cook, W.M.U. president, Mrs. Fred Grant, B.T.U. president, R. E. McKelvey, chairman of the construction committee, W. C. Burrell, chairman of the building committee, Walter Dean, chairman of the board of deacons, and Kenneth Hooker, brotherhood president.

Also invited to turn the dirt were chairmen of church committees and members of the congregation.

A brief address was made by the Rev. W. N. Cook following the ground-breaking. Mr. Cook, a retired Baptist minister, described the move to build the church as an "historic" one, and said it was a tribute to the entire town of Franklin.

The invocation was given by Verlon Swafford; the prayer for dedication by Herman Childers; and the benediction by Mrs. W. A. Hays.

Floor plans for the new three-story church were approved by the congregation in February.

The proposed building will be 156 feet deep and 108 feet wide and will front US 23. The corners of the building were staked out for Monday's ceremony and the church pastor, the Rev. M. W. Chapman, briefly outlined the proposed location of different sections of the building.

Plans include an auditorium with a seating capacity of 600. The educational plant will provide a completely departmentalized and graded Sunday School, church offices, a library, nursery, small chapel, kitchen, dining hall, and rest rooms on each of the three floors.

CAFE SOLD

Dryman's Cafe, owned and operated by Prelo J. Dryman for the past several years, yesterday (Wednesday) was sold to A. L. Strong, of Raleigh. The amount involved in the transaction was not disclosed. Mr. Dryman has no immediate plans for the future.

REACTIVATED DRAMA GROUP HOPES TO PRODUCE SHOWS

The Highlands Community theatre, inactive for the past year, hopes to stage a series of productions next summer, following approval by the Highlands board of commissioners, at its meeting Monday night, of an arrangement for the theatre group to use the old school theatre building.

This season the community theatre has been without a place to present summer plays.

Under the agreement worked out Monday night, the theatre group will spend up to \$1,000 in refurbishing the former school theatre, the expenditure to be credited as prepaid rent. In return, the players will be assured the use of the building three days weekly, with a fourth optional. The remainder of the week, the building will be available to other groups.

First, however, the roof of the building must be repaired, and the town authorities Monday night agreed to have that done this fall.

The first project of the community theatre will be the repainting of the interior, early in the spring. On this, the



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

A fat calf and dairy calf show at the Franklin High Vocational Agricultural building was a successful climax to Friday's annual Farm and Home tour, attended by some 300 persons. Pictured above (L to R) are County Agent S. W. Mendenhall, who conducted the tour, Jerry Sutton and a calf he entered in the show, Ben P. Jenkins, western district county agent, J. D. Elrod, a representative of Southern Dairies, Asheville, who judged the show, and T. H. Fagg, assistant county agent, and Wayne Proffitt, vocational agricultural teacher, who were in charge of the show.

GRID SEASON NEAR: HERE'S THE SCHEDULE

Panthers Open Practice Monday; 23 Report For Duty

FOX — OBOE — OBOE — TARE — BAKER — ABLE — LOVE LOVE! That sports fans is code for "football", a contagious wintertime disease suffered by young and old.

Grid practice got under way Monday afternoon at Franklin High with the turn-out of 23 huskies. Added proof that, despite the absence of nippy air, football season is just about here is Franklin's schedule, which follows:

- Sept. 12, Andrews, here.
- Sept. 19, Clayton, Ga., here.
- Sept. 26, Cherokee, here.
- Oct. 3, Hayesville, there.
- Oct. 10, Sylva, there.
- Oct. 24, Robbinsville, there.
- Oct. 31, Murphy, there.
- Nov. 7, Waynesville, here.
- Nov. 14, Clyde, there.

Coach Dick Stott is putting the squad through its paces this week in the absence of Coach SEE NO. 1, PAGE 6

Highlands Soldier Now With Army In Germany

Pvt. William Y. Bryson, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Bryson, of Highlands, is serving with the 43rd Infantry division in southern Germany, the army has announced.

He is assigned to the 172nd Infantry regiment's heavy mortar company.

A graduate of Highlands High school, Pvt. Bryson was a school bus driver before entering service. SEE NO. 2, PAGE 6

Farm And Home Tour Friday Projects County's Progress

Brysons Hold Reunion Here With Arveys

Approximately 175 descendants of Samuel Bryson—who settled in Macon County in 1820—gathered Sunday at the home of Wade Arvey for their annual reunion.

In addition to Maconites and North Carolinians, members of the clan came from Tennessee, Georgia, Virginia, and South Carolina for the day and all ages were represented.

Mrs. James L. Bryson, of Cullowhee, affectionately known as "Aunt Fannie", at 85 was the oldest present. Keith Gibson Bryson, five-months-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt Bryson, of Franklin was the youngest of the younger set.

A more than ample picnic-style dinner served as a backdrop for members of the family as they renewed old acquaintances and were brought up-to-date on the family's history.

All officers were reelected for another year. They are Thad D. Bryson, Jr., president; C. Tom Bryson, vice president; Miss Louise Bryson, secretary; Robert T. Bryson, treasurer; and Fred Bryson, historian.

Out-of-town members of the family included Mr. and Mrs. James R. Sheffield, of Bristol, Tenn., W. G. Hyatt and family, of Bristol, Va., W. T. Sheffield and family, of Bristol, Va., C. H. SEE NO. 2, PAGE 6

The spotlight focused on an SEE NO. 3, PAGE 6



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

LET'S KEEP IT CLEAN is the suggestion of this group of Boy Scouts, who spent last Wednesday policing the streets of downtown Franklin for carelessly tossed papers and rubbish. These lads, who class their personal clean-up campaign as a good deed for the day, want the cooperation of everyone in keeping the town free of unsightly trash. They are (L to R) George R. McSweeney, Scout leader, Mitchell Houston, Lewis Cabe, Tommy Gnuse, Ben Edwards, Bruce Houston, and Edward Shatley.

Accused Slayer Freed, Not Enough Evidence; Docket Half Completed

BIG ARBORETUM FOR MOUNTAIN FLORA FAVORED

Ramsey Makes Suggestion In Talk At Highlands Anniversary Meet

Creation of a great arboretum, where there would be brought together every tree and shrub and plant indigenous to this region, was suggested by D. Hiden Ramsey at last Thursday evening's program marking the 25th anniversary of the Highlands Biological station.

Mr. Ramsey, vice-president of the Asheville Citizen-Times company, was the chief speaker of the occasion. The program, held in the Museum of Natural History building in Highlands, drew about 75 persons, many of



D. HIDEN RAMSEY

them scientists and students from elsewhere.

A feature of the event was the award of citations of merit to persons who have been particularly helpful to the Biological station.

Such an arboretum, Mr. Ramsey pointed out, would be a source of both education and pleasure to old and young.

He remarked that "ignorance is relative", and added that "ignorance of nature is one of the greatest tragedies" that can befall anyone.

Warren McCa. Deacon, of Vanderbilt university, president of the station, who presided, pointed out, at the conclusion of Mr. Ramsey's address, that the station now has the beginnings of a botanical garden, which might grow into such an arboretum. Mr. Ramsey called it one of the great needs of the Southern Appalachians.

Recalling the "distressingly inadequate" laboratory facilities of Southern colleges and universities a quarter of a century ago, Mr. Ramsey praised the "faith and boldness" of those who inaugurated this station 25 years ago. "But," he added, "they would not have had the SEE NO. 2, PAGE 7

WHY WASTE THE COURT'S TIME?

Judge Says He Discussed Courthouse Before, To No Avail

Judge William H. Bobbitt, presiding over the August term of Superior court here, considers discussing the condition of Macon County's 70-year-old courthouse a waste of time.

In his charge to the grand jury soon after the opening of court Monday morning, the judge remarked that he discussed the courthouse "with much vigor" when presiding over terms here in 1941 and 1947. He then smilingly pointed out that little had been done to improve it since then.

In order to save time, he told the jury he would not bring up SEE NO. 1, PAGE 7

Grinds Out Drunk Driving Cases; Court Packed Monday, Tuesday

Drunk driving and other traffic cases were ground out Monday and Tuesday in superior court here with mill-like precision.

Court opened at 10 o'clock Monday morning with Judge William H. Bobbitt, of Charlotte, presiding.

By yesterday (Wednesday) morning, roughly half of the 150-odd cases listed on the criminal docket had been disposed of, including a large majority of the 52 drunk driving cases.

Court played to a packed house Monday and Tuesday, but the nol prosequendo trial Tuesday afternoon is expected to cut the number of spectators for the remainder of the term. Court officials anticipate moving into the civil docket either today or tomorrow.

A mistrial was ordered by the judge in the reckless driving case of Lem Hafer, of Newton, when the jury failed to reach a verdict after deliberating more than three and a half Mr. Hafer is alleged to have been the driver of an automobile on June 16 on the Wayah road that killed two dogs owned by E. M. McNish.

Serving as jurors for criminal cases are G. R. McConnell, G. W. Owenby, J. F. Browning, E. W. Justice, Weaver Cabe, C. L. Dills, Bill Willis, Charles SEE NO. 1, PAGE 12

BOOTH PROJECT GETS GO - AHEAD

Stadium Public Address Booth Will Be Erected By Lions Soon

A new combination public address booth and refreshment stand is expected to be completed at the Franklin High stadium by the opening of the football season here.

The project, being backed by the local Lions club, was given the green light Monday night by the club's board of directors on the strength of pledges of money and materials that have been received. Construction of the booth will get under way soon. The Franklin High Panthers open the 1952-53 season here September 12 against Andrews.

Approximately \$700 will be needed to erect the structure, according to George R. Pattillo, chairman of the Lions civic improvement committee.

Persons wishing to donate either money or building materials for the project are asked to contact Mr. Pattillo or any member of the club.

The proposed cinder block public address booth will be approximately 11 feet, four inches square with refreshment booths in the lower section and broadcasting quarters in the upper. An eight-foot observation window will face the field in the upper section. The broadcasting system will include speakers on the front corners of the structure.

Other members of the civic committee are Farrell Penland, George Noetel, and Eb Bullock.

Kindergarten Opening Is Slated September 2

A kindergarten, under the supervision of Mrs. Joseph W. Fouts, will open September 2.

Now nearing completion on Lyle street is a new building for the school, which Mrs. Fouts last year operated in the First Baptist church.

Mrs. Fouts says she will be equipped to instruct pre-school children from three through five years of age. The school term will be nine months with hours daily from 9 a. m. to 1 p. m.

Arrangements may also be made to keep children at the school all day for the convenience of parents who are both working.

States Gets Nol Pros In Wood Murder Trial Tuesday

This statement — The evidence in the case is not legally sufficient to bring the matter before a jury — made by Solicitor Thad D. Bryson, Jr., in superior court Tuesday afternoon, wrote finis to the first degree murder trial of James Theodore Wood, charged with the May, 1950 slaying of a Macon County logger.

Wood, free on bond since his indictment more than a year ago, quietly left the courtroom, smilingly acknowledging pats on the back and handshakes from spectators who had jammed the courthouse since Monday waiting for the murder trial to begin.

Judge William H. Bobbitt granted Solicitor Bryson's request for a nol prosequendo, which in effect closed the case unless more evidence is turned up.

Wood was charged with the death of 43-year-old Grady Ray, whose body was found about midnight May 17 (1950) in the yard of a Kyle home. His indictment came nearly 11 months later, during the April, 1951, court term here, after there were indications that Ray met with foul play. Wood's indictment centered around a disclosure that a large amount of mud was found in the dead man's throat. An inquest at the time of Ray's death termed the case accidental, but a provision was included in the jury's verdict to reopen the case if additional evidence was uncovered.

Requested postponements were granted the state at the August and December, 1951, terms.

Solicitor Bryson pointed out "for the benefit of the general public" that there was "no intimation of foul play until sometime after the death of Ray" and explained that the state did not have a strong enough case to put Wood on trial.

Requested postponements were granted the state at the August and December, 1951, terms.

Solicitor Bryson pointed out "for the benefit of the general public" that there was "no intimation of foul play until sometime after the death of Ray" and explained that the state did not have a strong enough case to put Wood on trial.

ROTARY GIVES 2 SCHOLARSHIPS

Recipients Are Miss Henry And Miss Waters, 1952, Franklin Grads

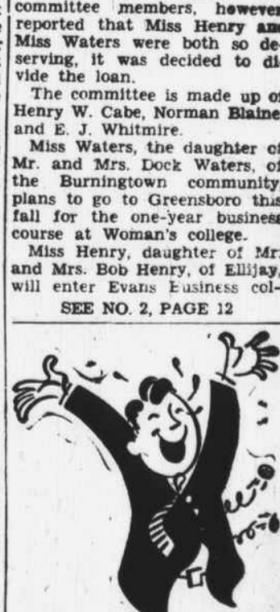
Misses Clara Jo Waters and Betty Henry, 1952 graduates of Franklin High school, have been chosen as recipients of a Franklin Rotary club scholarship loan for the next college year, it has been announced.

The amount available for the club loan is \$300, and the scholarship committee had planned to select one recipient. The committee members, however, reported that Miss Henry and Miss Waters were both so deserving, it was decided to divide the loan.

The committee is made up of Henry W. Cabe, Norman Blaine, and E. J. Whitmire.

Miss Waters, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dock Waters, of the Burningtown community, plans to go to Greensboro this fall for the one-year business course at Woman's college.

Miss Henry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Henry, of Ellijay, will enter Evans Business college. SEE NO. 2, PAGE 12



"HOT DOG!! Someone gave me a subscription to The Franklin Press."