

Dean Upsets Bryson For House Seat

Macon Backs Stevenson, But Eisenhower Goes In

State Supports Umstead And Slate For All Party Offices

By a slim margin of an unofficial 60 votes, Macon County joined North Carolina in Tuesday's general election in giving Gov. Adlai Stevenson a Democratic green light to the White House, but:

The Republican ticket of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Sen. Richard Nixon ripped open the once-solid South by taking Virginia's 12 electoral votes and leading in other Southern states

The narrow victory for the Democratic nominee, Gov. Adlai Stevenson, over Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Republican, in the presidential race Tuesday was even reflected in a straw vote conducted at Franklin High school. In the general election the Illinois governor carried by an unofficial 60 votes, in the high school balloting, 67.

to put the GOP forces over the top for the first time in 20 years.

Gov. Stevenson conceded the election to Gen. Eisenhower early yesterday (Wednesday) morning from his campaign headquarters in the Leland Hotel in Springfield, Ill.

Macon's unofficial vote was: Stevenson, 3393; Eisenhower, 3330.

Still following the lead of the state, Macon backed the Democratic gubernatorial candidate William B. Umstead and his party's slate of officers. While all returns have not been reported, the Democrats were well out in front in the state contests.

Mr. Umstead received 3,722 votes here to Republican H. F. Seawell's 2,948.

Royal Ambassador Two-Day Conclave Begins On Friday

More than 100 Royal Ambassadors from the six-county Bryson City Baptist division are expected to attend the second annual R. A. conclave here tomorrow (Friday) and Saturday at the Cowee church.

In charge of the conclave, which opens tomorrow at 6 p. m. with a banquet at the church, will be the Rev. John Corbitt, pastor of the Highlands Baptist church.

Scheduled to be present for the meeting is the Rev. Bill Jackson, state R. A. leader, and a number of other church officials.

The Baptist boys will represent churches in Macon, Jackson, Swain, Clay, Graham, and Cherokee counties.

Food and lodging for the visiting R. A.'s will be arranged by Macon's 20 Baptist churches, and tomorrow night's opening banquet will be prepared and served by missionary societies, according to Mr. Corbitt.

Bryson City was the host town to the first R. A. conclave last year.

MEANDERING ALONG MAIN STREET

Way back in 1918, J. R. Berry, of Franklin, Route 4, found a baby terrapin and, as was the vogue in those days, carved his initials and the date on its back. Years later, in 1944, Thomas Sanders found the terrapin near his home and returned it to Mr. Berry. The two men figured the terrapin had crossed Watauga creek and traveled about a half mile since 1918.

Released again, Brer Terrapin started traveling—and for naught. Monday Mr. Sanders found it again near his home and returned it to Mr. Berry.

Just goes to show that one can travel a lot and get nowhere.

WINS PRESIDENCY



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

Pick Winners In 'Why Vote' Competition

Bryan Hurst, of Franklin, Route 4, is the winner of a \$25 defense bond for the best essay submitted by a Macon County high school student on the subject, "Why Vote?"

The contest, sponsored by the Franklin Lions club, drew 47 entries from the county's three high schools.

The winner of the \$10 cash second prize is Miss Myra

WINNERS ON PAGE 2

The three prize-winning essays on "Why Vote?" appear on the editorial page.

Crawford, of Franklin, Route 1, and \$5 third prize went to Miss Joyce Baldwin, of Franklin, Route 3.

Mr. Hurst is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Hurst. Miss Crawford is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Crawford. And Miss Baldwin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Baldwin. All three winners are seniors at Franklin High school.

The entries were first judged by a committee of Franklin school teachers, which eliminated all but 12 entries. These went to a committee of Western Carolina Teachers college faculty members, which picked the three winners.

The educational committee of SEE NO. 1, PAGE 10

GRADING JOB MOVES SLOWLY

Expect Arrival Soon Of Heavy Equipment On New Highway

Grading on the new Franklin-Cowee Gap highway, which entails moving more than a million yards of dirt, is proceeding slowly, pending the arrival of more earth-moving equipment, according to S. T. Usry, state highway resident engineer.

Tuesday the engineer said the contractor, J. C. Critcher, Inc., of Asheville, is expected to move heavy equipment in some time this week.

At present, bulldozers are roughing out the general bed of the proposed road and starting work on several cuts and SEE NO. 2, PAGE 10

MEETING CANCELLED

The regular meeting of the Franklin board of aldermen Monday night was cancelled because of the absence of Mayor W. C. Burrell, who was out of town, according to Town Clerk C. O. Ramsey. A special session is planned at an early date, he added.

December Term Jury List Picked

Fifty-four jurors for the December term of superior court here were selected Monday during a meeting of the board of county commissioners.

The court term opens December 1, with Judge William H. Bobbitt, of Charlotte, presiding. Names of the jurors were drawn by Johnnie Collins, eight-year-old daughter of Mrs. Helen Collins, of Franklin, Route 4.

The name of one woman, Mrs. Gilmer A. Jones, of Franklin, appears on the list. By law the first 36 serve the first week of court, the remaining jurors, the second week.

Picked for service the first week are W. A. Calhoun, of Route 3, R. B. Wilson, of Highlands, D. C. Hembree, of Nantahala, Bert Zachary, of Highlands, G. C. Woody, of Route 3, Emils Meadows, of Route 3, Ray R. Franklin, of Route 4, John Brendle, of Route 4, J. C. Sorrells, of Franklin, Mrs. Gilmer A. Jones, of Franklin, Grady Wilkes, of Route 3, Henry B. Cabe, of Route 2, Parker Raby, of Route 4, H. D. Ditmore, of Flats, Frank Sanders, of Route 4, D. A. Hall, of Route 3, V. C. DeHart, of Route 3, Horace T. Nolen, of Franklin, W. Ransom Ledford, of Prentiss, Z. A. Shuler, of Highlands, Lex Angel, of Cullasaja, Will Bradley, of Route 3, J. S. Gray, of Route 2, D. A. Grant, of Flats, Clayton Bateman, of Flats, Weaver Gibson, of Route 3, Cecil Green, of Route 1, Woodrow Gibson, of Route 3, J. N. Fisher, of Sealy, the Rev. N. E. Holden, of Route 3, J. L. Hurst, of Route 3, R. J. Lewis, of Highlands, Arthur A. Drake, of Route 3, Elbert Angel, SEE NO. 3, PAGE 10

GETS INVITATION

Dr. Furman Angel announced yesterday (Wednesday) that he, Mrs. Angel, and their son, Furman, Jr., have received an invitation to attend the inauguration of president-elect Dwight D. Eisenhower in Washington, D. C. on January 20.

BAZAAR PLANNED

A Christmas bazaar under the sponsorship of the Franklin Parent-Teacher association is planned December 6 at the Nantahala Power and Light company building, it has been announced.

FOREST FIRE SITUATION IS NOW CRITICAL

Men Battle Four Macon Blazes; All Brought Under Control

The fire situation in Macon County reached the "extremely critical" stage this week as Nantahala forest personnel and volunteer fighters brought four forest fires under control.

Already this year's fire season is the worst for the Nantahalas since 1942, according to Paul H. Russell, assistant supervisor.

Pointing out that there has been no real rain in more than 40 days, the assistant supervisor labeled the situation as "extremely critical."

Mopping up operations on four fires in the county, which burned over approximately 259 acres, were under way Tuesday. No new fires had been reported through yesterday (Wednesday).

Saturday afternoon forest service personnel and volunteers pitched in to bring a fire on the Westfield-Henderson property, west of the Rainbow Springs road at the head of Nantahala lake, under control.

With District Ranger J. W. Laros in charge, fire-fighters battled a blaze which burned over 19 acres of government land on the Georgia-North Carolina state line in Blue Valley.

Two fires kept fighters on the move Monday night, one in the Tessente section and one in the Rainbow Springs area. The Tessente fire, near Wheat Field-Buckeye branch, burned over approximately 160 acres and took a crew of 41 to bring it under control. Fighting operations were directed by Robert Pearl, assistant district ranger, and Tommy Cabe, forestry aide.

The Rainbow Springs fire fanned by a stiff wind, burned over approximately 80 acres—about half government land and half Westfield-Henderson land—one mile south of the Nantahala road on the Rainbow Springs road. About 20 men, led by Woodrow Shope, forestry aide, and Fred Bryson, county fire warden, fought the blaze.

In the last 15 days of October, 20 fires broke out on the Nantahalas, according to Mr. Russell, burning a total of 3, SEE NO. 4, PAGE 10

Voting Shows Increase Of About 27 Per Cent Over '48

Tuesday's general election saw the Macon County vote go up 27 per cent over the 1948 election.

The unofficial vote Tuesday was 6,723; in 1948, 5,309.

State-wide, indications were that the total vote would go over the one million mark, breaking all records for balloting.

The estimated registration for Macon prior to the election was 9,000.

MISS LEACH, TEACHER, DIES

Passes Saturday At Age Of 74; Taught School For 48 Years

Miss Nora Virginia Leach, a well-known retired school teacher, died Saturday morning at Angel hospital at the age of 74. She had been in declining health for some time. She taught for 48 years, most of them in the schools of this county.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Franklin Presbyterian church by the Rev. J. Q. Wallace, retired Presbyterian minister, the Rev. C. E. Murray, pastor of the First Methodist church, and the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, rector of the St. Agnes Episcopal church. Burial was in Woodlawn cemetery.

A native of this county, Miss Leach was born March 25, 1878, the daughter of Frank and Susie Cunningham Leach. She was educated in the county schools and attended the University of North Carolina and Western Carolina Teachers college, Cullowhee. In addition to her teaching experience in this county, she taught for two years in Georgia.

She was an active member of the United Daughters of the Confederacy, the Macon County unit of the North Carolina Education association, and the Carson Chapel Home Demonstration club.

Survivors include three sisters, Mrs. Pearl Wright, Miss Laura Leach, and Miss Ida Leach, of Franklin, and a number of nieces and nephews.

Former students of the school teacher served as pallbearers. They were John Bulgin, Lon Dalton, C. Tom Bryson, L. B. Phillips, J. R. Ray, and Horace Nolen. Members of the Carson Chapel Home Demonstration club were flower bearers.

REPUBLICAN WINS CONTEST BY SLIM VOTE

Is First GOP Victory In Race Here In 26 Years

A decided upset was registered Tuesday in the local race for the state house of representatives when Republican Walter Dean squeezed into the house seat in front of Rep. C. Tom Bryson by a close and unofficial 47 votes—the first victory for a GOP candidate in this race in 26 years.

The vote: Dean, 3,382; Bryson, 3,335.

Mr. Dean, a former Macon deputy sheriff, found his strength in the Ellijay, Sugarfork, Flats, Nantahala 1 and 2, Burningtown, and Millsheel townships, while Rep. Bryson, who was seeking his second term in the house, carried Highlands, Smithbridge, Cartoogchaye, Cowee, and Franklin.

In 1926, the late Rev. Alvin Solesbee, Republican, defeated the late J. A. Porter by a narrow margin.

Mr. Dean's father, the late H. D. Dean, served two terms in the state house early in this century.

Dr. J. H. Crawford, Democrat, 84-year-old former member of the general assembly, of Robbinsville, apparently was an easy victor over E. J. Carpenter, Republican, Franklin insurance man, for state senator from the 33rd district.

Incomplete and unofficial returns from the five counties—Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Swain, and Macon—gave Dr. Crawford a lead of nearly 2,000 votes.

In the race for county surveyor, Democrat Lake R. Ledford had a substantial lead over Republican James Denman on the basis of unofficial returns.

Iotla Carnival Nets \$246.14; Burrell And Fouts, King, Queen

Iotla school's Halloween carnival last Thursday night netted \$246.14, according to Harry Moses, principal.

Irvin Burrell and Virginia Fouts were crowned king and queen of Halloween and Brent Southards and Mary Jo Swafford, prince and princess. Ed Higdon won the prize for being the ugliest and Miss Nora Moody was picked as the most popular.

Daily Grind Of Band Member Isn't As Tough As Football, But The Effort Is Parallel

Almost unnoticed in the hub-bub of football games is the Franklin band, an enthusiastic aggregation of young musicians that lend a harmonious touch to the raucous cheering of fans.

Although the day's grind for the average band member isn't as strenuous as that of a football player, the effort put forth is on a parallel.

This is easily explained: Football is a fall sport, playing in the band is a year-round proposition that calls for practice and more practice, sandwiched between requests for concerts and parades.

But, the band has its problems, and according to Director S. F. (Sammy) Beck, it is slowly slipping downhill because of a lack of interest among students and operating capital.

As proof of this, he pointed out that when the band was formed in 1949 it had 60 members, as contrasted with this year's 40. And he painted an even darker picture by explaining that almost 90 per cent of the band members are now junior or seniors and that there are not enough underclassmen

joining the band to replace those dropping out through the graduation door.

In Western North Carolina, the youthful Franklin band is second only to Waynesville High school's colorful outfit, if the annual W.N.C. High School Field Day at Western Carolina Teachers college is any indication. In the past two school years (1950-51 and 1951-52) the local band took second place honors at the field day. First place both years went to Waynesville.

With the proper backing, the band director feels that Franklin could easily move to the front of the field in this end of the state.

The Franklin Lions club has been the key sponsor of the band from the beginning and has received the assistance of several other civic organizations, foremost among these being the Rotary club, which helped buy uniforms for the band the year it was formed.

The principal source of revenue for the band is the school and Mr. Beck estimated that it SEE NO. 5, PAGE 10



Grading on the new Franklin-Cowee Gap (US 23) highway, which entails the moving of more than a million yards of dirt, according to state highway engineers, is going along slowly, pending the arrival of more heavy equipment. The picture above, taken on the mountain end of the project, just below York's Motor court, shows bulldozers and other equipment knifing through a cut, pushing the dirt into a large fill. The building at left is the W. B. Franks' home.