

# The Franklin Press

and  
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## 10 SCHOOLS OPEN DOORS HERE TODAY

Opening Of Highlands  
Not Slated Until  
September 8

Today (Thursday) some 4,000 eager school children — and some not so eager — answered the call of the 1953-54 school year in 10 of this county's 11 schools.

Highlands students still have a few days of grace, however. Because of the tourist season, school does not open there until September 8.

While acknowledging those all-important studies, Franklin High School students, nevertheless, are concentrating on the progress of this year's football squad, which will open its grid season September 11 in Andrews.

Pigskin practice got under way last week, and Coach R. A. (Art) Byrd has been putting his machine through its paces for two practice sessions daily.

## Macon Voters Will Ballot On 2 Issues

Macon voters, along with those of the state's other 99 counties, will go to the polls October 3 to decide the fate of two proposed state bond issues.

The first proposal is that the state issue \$50,000,000 in bonds for school building.

The second, that \$22,000,000 in bonds be issued to provide adequate space and facilities in the state's mental institutions.

Official notice of the election in this county already has been given by Siler Slagle, chairman of the Macon County Board of Elections.

If the people of the state approve the \$50,000,000 for schools, Macon County will receive as its share not less than \$163,000, and a maximum that may run as high as \$400,000 or more.

The 1953 act authorizing the special election on the proposals for the two bond issues sets forth how the \$50,000,000 for schools shall be distributed among the 100 counties.

The first \$10,000,000 is to be divided equally among the counties, \$100,000 each.

The next \$15,000,000 is to be distributed on a basis of membership (number of pupils in the public schools) during the 1951-52 school year. State officials already have worked out the division on that basis, and have announced that Macon's share of this \$15,000,000 will be \$63,953.25. Thus this county would receive out of the school bond issue, if it is carried, a minimum of \$163,953.25.

The remaining \$25,000,000 is to be distributed on a basis of need and of effort by the counties to meet the need. That is to say, a poor county that has made a serious effort to meet its school needs would receive more than a rich county with little need, or a county  
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## Officers Raid Still Saturday

An 80-gallon still and 330 gallons of mash were destroyed Saturday afternoon above the Burningtown Falls, the Sheriff's office has reported.

The raiding party included Sheriff J. Harry Thomas, Deputy Sheriff Newell Pendergrass, and Roy Reese, federal agent, of Bryson City. No arrest was made.

## Whitmire Buys Ledford's Share Of Freezer Plant

E. J. Whitmire has purchased Oscar Ledford's half interest in Franklin Frozen Foods, Inc. Mr. Ledford has been secretary-treasurer and general manager of the corporation since it opened several years ago.

Pat Cable is in charge of the business at present, according to Mr. Whitmire.

## Plyler Says Festival Is Shaping Up

All signs indicate that the first annual Macon County Folk Festival the nights of September 3, 4, and 5 is going to be highly successful, according to Frank Plyler, festival co-chairman for the sponsoring Franklin Jaycees.

At the present time, entertainment for the festival, which will be held at the Franklin High Stadium, is being lined up, and interest is high, the co-chairman said.

Several string bands, square dance teams and other entertainers have registered for the three-night event and still others are expected to sign up this week and next, Mr. Plyler said.

More than 40 entertainers—from bands to fiddlers and banjo pickers—have been contacted.

The festival program has been roughed out to include contests between string bands, square dance teams, fiddlers, banjo pickers, guitar players, and clog dancers, Mr. Plyler explained, adding that other features will be planned if demand warrants.

Contests will start each night at 8 o'clock, with the finals planned Saturday evening. Judges will be announced later.

Trophies will be presented to individual winners in each event. Mr. Plyler said the Jaycees have set an admission charge of 25 cents each night for those over 12 years of age to cover the cost of erecting a platform on the field and trophies.

## Town Gives Paving Job To Allison

The contract for paving seven Franklin streets has been awarded to Allison Construction Company, Asheville, the only bidder.

In special session Wednesday night of last week, the board of aldermen opened the lone sealed bid, discussed it, and then voted to accept the concern's offer to condition the streets for five cents per square foot and pave for 60 cents per square foot.

The seven streets slated for surfacing total 3,879 feet in length, according to bid specifications. They are Mill Street (534 feet); Lyle (1,000); West Boulevard (1,030); Sunset Drive (870); and Highlands Avenue (445).

All will be 12 feet wide, with the exception of Mill Street, which will be 24 feet. Estimated cost of the entire project is \$8,000. The streets were selected for surfacing following a survey by Aldermen Verion Swafford and Erwin Patton.

Work is expected to get under way at an early date, according to town officials.

**BALL GAME SUNDAY**  
The Franklin All-Stars will meet Clayton, Ga., Sunday at the Franklin High Stadium at 2 p. m., it has been announced.

## New Meters Are Installed



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brad

Freda Holland, 11-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cleo Holland, of Gold Mine, was among the first to try out Franklin's new automatic parking meters Saturday. Looking on is Chief of Police C. D. Baird. The odd looking machine is a new money-collecting cart that came with the meters. The flexible hose fits under the money compartment, the meter is opened, and the money pours through the hose into the tank below. "Sure beats carrying a canvas bag around", the chief commented.

## STATION SETS ANNUAL MEET

Three Sessions Slated  
Over The Week-end  
In Highlands

This week-end will mark the annual meeting of the Highlands Biological Station.

The first of three planned sessions will be a meeting of the board of managers Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Those expected to attend Saturday's meeting are R. K. Godfrey, North Carolina State College; J. J. Friauf, Vanderbilt University; Eugene P. Odum, University of Georgia; Royal E. Shanks, University of Tennessee; H. R. Totten, University of North Carolina; G. W. Wharton, Duke University; Lewis Anderson, president of the corporation, Duk University; and Dr. Thelma Howell, executive director of the corporation, Wesleyan College.

This group of professional biologists is composed of representatives of each of the subscribing colleges and universities, and makes recommendations to the board of trustees  
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The recent decision of the board of aldermen to buy new automatic meters stemmed from an increasing number of complaints that the old ones jammed during wet weather  
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## JUDGE FAVORS EXTENSION OF PATROL POWER

Urges Grand Jury Here  
To Put Issue To  
Legislature

Judge F. Donald Phillips favors extending the powers of the State Highway Patrol as a state police body, in order to provide "greater protection for the people."

In his charge to the grand jury with the opening of the superior court term here Monday morning, the judge remarked, that some seem to have declared "open season on officers," referring to the recent slaying of sheriffs in both Cherokee and Jackson counties.

"It appears that the people of the state have got to do something to protect themselves that they haven't done," Judge Phillips contended, and he urged the grand jurors and those present in court to recommend to the next legislature that the State Highway Patrol be given increased powers of law enforcement, so its officers would be able to step in and take charge of cases without first having to get permission.

The judge commended the patrol for its excellent training and the job it is doing, but he added "the highway patrol doesn't have the authority it should have."

If the patrol were a state constabulary, the judge pointed out, the citizens of the state would receive more protection. Judge Phillips briefly touched on the English heritage of the grand jury system and explained in detail the duties and scope of the body as the "fountainhead of all criminal prosecutions."

John Clark was appointed foreman of the jury by the court.

The other grand jurors, drawn by Ronnie Pendergrass, six-year-old son of Deputy Sheriff and Mrs. Newell Pendergrass, included A. J. Speed, Wymor Williamson, L. N. Smith, Edgar Tippett, D. L. Douthitt, Alex Pendergrass, Clyde Bingham, Ray Bryson, George W. Nix, William Drinnon, W. T. Fouts, Lon Campbell, M. B. Rowland, T. A. Slagle, J. B. Elmore, Claude Keener, and Frank J. Southards.

## COWEE GRADING 75% COMPLETE

Usry Says Heavy Earth  
Equipment Moved  
Off Job

With grading now approximately 75 per cent complete on the Franklin-Cowee Gap highway project, most of the heavy earth-moving equipment has been taken off the job by the contractor.

Resident Engineer S. T. Usry said this week most of the work on the project is being done in the Cowee Gap vicinity.

Shafts to divert underground water in the gap are being sunk here, in preparation for blasting the roadbed through solid rock in the gap.

A four-barre, culvert is under construction over Rabbit Creek and the new bridge over Watauga Creek is nearing completion.

## Magician-Hypnotist To Perform Here 2 Nights Next Week

Preston, magician-hypnotist who was received here last year by enthusiastic audiences, will return for performances Monday and Tuesday (August 31, September 1) at the East Franklin School at 8 p. m., under the sponsorship of the Franklin Jaycees.

The magician performed here last year under the auspices of the Rotary Club.

## CORBIN REUNION SET

Descendants of the late John and Nancy McClure Corbin will hold their annual reunion the first Sunday in September (September 6) at the home of Dewey Corbin, it has been announced by Miss Villa Corbin, secretary of the Corbin clan. Those planning to attend are asked to bring a picnic lunch.

## Court Is Over; No Jury Trials

Judge Phillips Winds  
Up Light Criminal,  
Civil Dockets



RALPH L. SMITH

Mr. Smith, new Franklin district principal, Friday night entertained some 50 guests with a "get acquainted dinner" at Franklin High School. A native of Hayesville, the new principal's last post was in Sylva.

## 'Shocked' At Home Report, Jurist Says

"I am shocked over your report on the county home!" This was Judge F. Donald Phillips' reaction Tuesday afternoon when the Grand Jury of the August superior court term turned in its inspection report on county facilities.

Among other things, the brief report said "our county home is in pitiful condition" — a comment, which according to the records, has been voiced by Grand Jurors here for many years.

But Judge Phillips, who is scheduled to preside at the upcoming December term here also, sharply criticized conditions at the home and declared "this court is going to take the necessary steps to see that they [those in the county home] get the care they deserve."

He ordered certified copies of the report sent to each county commissioner and asked for a signed receipt that each had received his copy.

Reviewing the report, the judge commented that the inmates of the home "should be treated as human beings" and be given some measure of  
SEE NO. 3, PAGE 8

## LARGE CROWD HEARS GENERAL

Eichelberger Speaker At  
Highlands Rotary  
Club Meet

The Highlands Rotary Club drew the largest attendance on record at its meeting Tuesday evening of last week, when Lt. Gen. Robert L. Eichelberger gave an interesting and informal talk on the current unsettled situation in the near and Far East. Stacey C. Russell, secretary, announced.

Many will recall that General Eichelberger led the victorious Eighth Army in the bitter three-year island-hopping campaign from New Guinea to Manila, the secretary said, adding that General Eichelberger flew into Tokyo just two hours ahead of General MacArthur for the preliminary arrangements incident to the Japanese surrender.

The 17 members of the Highlands club were out-numbered by 57 visitors, who were so interested in the talk that the scheduled half-hour program extended for more than an hour.

Dr. Charles R. Bittle, medical director of the Highlands Community Hospital, is a recent addition to the club membership.

Tuesday afternoon spelled the end of a light criminal docket for the August term of superior court, which opened here Monday morning with Judge F. Donald Phillips, of Rockingham, presiding.

There were no jury trials on the criminal side of the term. Judge Phillips heard and pronounced sentence in all cases. Yesterday (Wednesday) the judge moved into an equally light civil docket, disposing of it by noon.

The balance of opening day was consumed by non-jury trials, involving for the most part motor vehicle cases. Trial of Marshall Reese, 33-year-old Highlands post office employe, who was charged with assault on a 17-year-old girl, took up most of Tuesday. Judge Phillips handed the Highlands man a 12-month suspended sentence on payment of \$100 and costs and good behavior for three years.

Cases disposed of on the criminal docket included: G. D. McClure, abandonment, not prof with leave.

Rufus A. Aszew, fraud, alias capias issued.

Bobby Joe Stewart, drunk driving, not prof with leave.

Len Hafer, careless and reckless driving, not prof with leave.

Ernest Bennett, non-support or an illegitimate child, alias capias issued.

Shirley Walter, Kerns, abandonment, alias capias issued.

Charlie William Paul, careless and reckless driving, continued.

Norman P. Fitzgerald, abandonment, alias capias issued.

Lester B. Chappel, drunk driving, called and failed, capias issued.

Boyd Thompson, drunk driving, called and failed, capias issued.

Robert Glenn Owens, drunk driving, capias issued.

W. H. Mashburn, non-support, continued.

Joseph Snyder, non-support illegitimate child, \$300 bond set, alias capias issued.

J. D. Welch, resisting arrest, called and failed, alias capias issued.

Clifford Alexander Fox, reckless driving, continued; carrying concealed weapon, continued for defendant.

Henderson Hayes, drunk driving, called and failed, alias capias issued.

Verlin Curtis, drunk driving, called and failed, continued for defendant.

Grover Eugene Crisp, careless and reckless driving, called and failed, capias issued.

L. W. Rice, Jr., aiding and abetting drunk driving, \$100, costs, license revoked for one year.

Jural Smith and Louise Hall, adultery, prayer for judgment continued to December term.

Howard Hastings, speeding, prayer for judgment continued 18 months, costs.

James D. Dillis, drunk driving, \$100, costs, license revoked for one year.

Joe Albert Shuler, aiding and abetting drunk driving, \$100, costs, license revoked for one year.

Glen Wilson, drunk driving, 4 months suspended, \$100, costs, license revoked for one year;  
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## The Weather

The week's temperature and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, Hydrologic Laboratory, FRANKLIN

	Temperatures			Rain
	High	Low		
Wednesday	81	63	.57	
Thursday	78	63	.07	
Friday	81	60	...	
Saturday	78	61	.20	
Sunday	82	57	trace	
Monday	86	56	...	
Tuesday	85	61	...	

## COWEETA

	Temperatures			Rain
	High	Low		
Wednesday	76	59	.284	
Thursday	74	59.5	1.08	
Friday	78	53	...	
Saturday	76	55	...	
Sunday	80	51	...	
Monday	83	46	.03	
Tuesday	83	48.5	...	



The road bed for the new \$618,000 highway from Cowee Gap (at the Jackson-Macon county line) to Franklin has reached the Franklin city limits. The picture, made on infrared film, was taken in the middle of the old junk yard next to the Sloan's Chapel church, looking east toward Hunnicutt Hill.