

ENGINEER SPEAKS ON ROAD WORK

Usry Discusses Present And Future Construction Jobs

Present and future highway construction in Macon County was reviewed by Resident Engineer S. T. Usry at last Wednesday night's meeting of the Franklin Rotary Club.

In addition to covering phases of highway work in this county, the engineer also announced that Macon Construction Company, of Franklin, has started preliminary clearing on the \$807,296 project from Cowee Gap to Dillsboro (US 23), an extension of the US 23 link from Franklin to Cowee Gap, which is now in the final stages of construction.

When traffic will be able to move over the new links from Franklin to Dillsboro is indefinite, Mr. Usry explained:

"It is possible that the whole road to the Tuckasee River Bridge will be paved by next fall, but I fear that the paving on the Jackson side of the project will have to be held over until the Spring of 1955, just as the Macon side of the project is having to be delayed until next Spring."

As for using the highway while construction is going on, the engineer said it will be impossible most of the time until grading is completed on the Jackson side.

Last week the State Highway Department completed 1.55 miles of paving on US 23 and 64 inside the Franklin city limits and put down a 30-foot strip around the county courthouse at a cost of \$16,158.50. Careless drivers—turning sharply or applying brakes too hard—already have damaged some of the new surfacing, the engineer pointed out, and he urged drivers to exercise caution until it has time to cure.

Other projects discussed by the engineer included:

Georgia Highway

The \$450,000 allocation for relocating a new stretch of US 23-south from Franklin to the Georgia state line was transferred to the Cowee Gap-Dillsboro project in order to rush this construction to completion. Therefore, Mr. Usry said, there are no present funds for this project although the field survey and preliminary plans have been completed. However, he Commissioner Harry Buchanan hopes to have the necessary funds by the time the Franklin-Dillsboro project is completed. The plans call for the proposed highway to swing left near the city limits and connect with US 64 about a half-mile west of the traffic light at the intersection of US 23 and 64. But it is possible that later conditions may dictate another route for this connection, he added.

Wayah Road

This 12-mile stretch across Wayah Gap to the Nantahala section probably will be contracted next—maybe next summer. The field survey has been completed and funds appropriated, but plans have not been completed, Mr. Usry said. The new stretch tentatively will begin at the end of the present black top at Cold Springs on the Wayah Valley side and will run into Fiesty Branch, near Nantahala School.

Franklin-Cowee Gap

Dickerson, Inc., of Monroe, completed structures on the project last week and all that remains is the removal of the detour bridge on Rabbit Creek, where a culvert has been installed.

Grading of the roadway is practically complete, except for a deep cut at Cowee Gap. About 20,000 cubic yards of rock still has to be moved in the cut. Barring bad weather, the cut should be completed by December. Some grading still has to be done from the Little Tennessee River Bridge to the city limits, but it will not be done until Spring so traffic can use the present pavement this winter.

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—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

Radio Cements Friendship For Young Woman And Dog

Call radio what you may, but it's a pretty wonderful thing to Louise and "Rita".

Louise is Miss Louise Woodard, a pert brunette of 31, who has been blind since birth.

"Rita" is her new seeing-eye dog—a beautiful brownish-red Doberman Pincher who seems to be haughtily aware of her importance and the fact that she is the first seeing-eye dog to come to this county.

And radio cemented this friendship, which to the outsider looking in seems to be a pretty wonderful thing also.

Miss Woodard, daughter of Mrs. M. A. Woodard, of the Oak Grove community, tells the story this way:

Listening to the radio one night, she heard about the Pilot Guide Dog Foundation, a charitable organization in Chicago, Ill., which provides money for seeing-eye dogs. She immediately sent the foundation a letter, requesting a dog. An application blank arrived from the foundation; she filled it out and returned it; and the next thing she knew she received a plane ticket and instructions to fly from Asheville to Columbus, Ohio, and train with a dog.

But "Rita" doesn't enter the picture yet. Louise's first dog was a German Shepherd, "but she proved unsatisfactory because she would not mind and would chase other dogs."

Then came "Rita", a four-year-old who belonged to a man who died and was turned back to the foundation. "Rita" knew the ropes and this friendship was born.

Miss Woodard has just returned to her mother's home, with "Rita" at her side.

In her 31 years of darkness, this spunky Macon County young woman has managed to lead a full and enjoyable life. She attended the State School for the Blind in Raleigh, worked as a grader for the Asheville Mica Company for two years, and also was employed in Charlotte for some time.

"But honestly, I don't know how I have gotten along without her," she reflected, patting "Rita" lovingly.

MACON JURY DRAWN FOR WOOD TRIAL

Accused Slayet Of Jackson Sheriff On Trial In Sylva

A special jury was selected from a venire of 100 Macon County men Tuesday in Sylva to hear the murder trial of 56-year-old Demos Wood, who is charged with the July 2 shotgun slaying of Jackson County Sheriff Charles Griffin Middleton.

Serving on the jury are J. W. Gribble, John Edwards, Norman Evans, John Kusterer, Lester Holland, Jake Waldroop, Leferts Higdon, Elbert Houston, J. L. Miller, Glenn Ray, B. B. Scott, and L. B. Limer. The alternate juror is J. C. Bryson.

Sheriff J. Harry Thomas and his deputies spent Monday afternoon and night rounding up the venire on orders of Solicitor Thad D. Bryson, Jr.

The murder trial is being heard by Judge Francis O. Clarkson at the Jackson County Superior Court term, which opened Monday.

95 Students Make School Honor Roll

Ninety-five Franklin High School students made the honor roll for the grading period just ended, with the 11th grade leading with 28 honor students.

To be eligible for the honor roll, Principal Ralph L. Smith explained that a student must maintain an average of 90 in class work; making as many A's as B's, or three A's for each C. Under the grading system used, an A is 95-100; B, 85-95; C, 75-85.

The honor students, by grades, are:

Twelfth: Clara Belle Anderson, Charles Baldwin, Luetta Browning, Betty Cabe, Annette Dalrymple, Annie Dills, Thad Dowdle, Ben Edwards, Ruth Edwards, Richard Gibson, Jeanne Henson, Marilyn Henson, Marilyn Higdon, Bea Johnson, Nancy McCollum, Eugene McDonald, Holland McSwain, Jr., Mildred Morgan, Maxine Peek, Jimmie Sherrill, Carlene Sorrells, Paul Sorrells, Norma Jean Welch, and Bill Zickgraf.

Eleventh: Catherine Alexander, Nancy Angel, Birdie Lee

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Survey Of Macon's Labor Potential Slated Nov. 6-7

Communities Will Honor Contributors

A two-purpose barbecue dinner will be given November 7 by the 13 communities entered in the Macon County Rural Community Development Contest, honoring local business and professional men who contributed prize money for the contest.

The dinner, which will be held at the Franklin High School cafeteria at 7 p. m., also will feature the awarding of \$1,025 to the winning communities in the contest.

Guest speaker for the dinner will be F. H. Jeter, of Raleigh, extension service editor, according to an announcement made this week by County Agent S. W. Mendenhall, secretary of the county contest council.

Other features of the dinner are still being worked out, he said, and will be made public later.

Women of the 13 communities will prepare and serve the meal under the supervision of the council.

In addition to Mr. Mendenhall, the council is composed of Erwin Patton, president; Walter Taylor, vice-president; and W. W. Sloan, treasurer. Presidents of the 13 communities also serve on the council.

The deadline for the contest is November 1. Judging will be over a three-day period, November 2, 3, and 4.

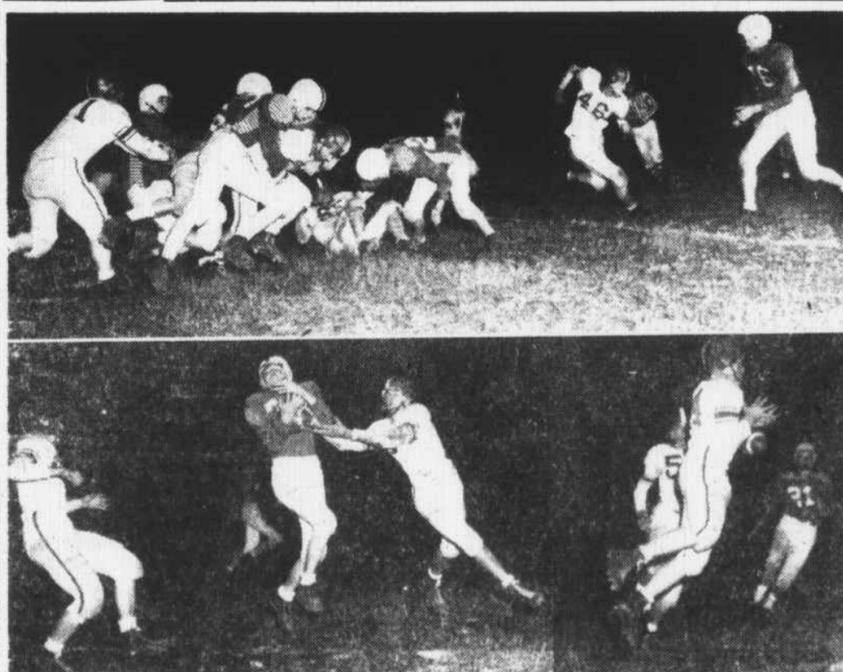
Five Citizens Receive Safe Driver Awards

Five Macon County citizens have been awarded "Safe Driver" awards in line with a statewide traffic safety program.

Highway Patrolman H. T. Ferguson this week presented certificates to Boise Hall and H. W. Cabe, both of Franklin, James C. Myers, of Franklin, Route 3, and Mrs. Louise S. Holt and T. C. Harbison, both of Highlands.

The patrolman said he selected the five from among motorists here after observing their safe driving habits both in the city and on the open road.

Franklin-Robbinsville Game Shots



These three pictures show that Friday night's game here between Franklin and Robbinsville was rougher than the 0 to 0 score indicated. Both teams put up stiff ground and aerial attacks, but were unable to muster up a scoring punch. In the top picture, Back Vic Teague is shown charging through the line with an unidentified Robbinsville player riding his back. The bottom two pictures illustrate the trouble receivers on both teams had holding on to the ball. The unidentified Robbinsville man dropped his pass, as did the Panther (right).

A survey of Macon County's labor potential will be launched on a county-wide scale November 6 and 7 as the first step by the Macon County Industrial Committee toward preparing a comprehensive study of the county's industrial picture.

All citizens between the ages of 18 and 50 are urged to visit the designated registration place in their community and fill out a labor survey blank. Hours will be 9 a. m. to 4 p. m., each day.

Registration will be handled by volunteers at the following locations in the county:

- Highlands: Town Office.
- Gneiss: Post Office.
- Cullasaja: Bryson's Store.
- Millshoal: Holly Springs Community Center.
- Watauga: Crawford's Store.
- Franklin: County Courthouse and Shook's Shell Station.
- Cowee: Rickman's Store.
- Tellico (Lower Burnington): Morgan's Store.
- Nantahala: Aquone Post Office and Nantahala School.
- Otto: Post Office.
- Prentiss: Union School.
- Cartoogechaye: Cartoogechaye School.

GARDEN CLUBS HOLD MEETING

Franklin Club Host To District Women Here On Tuesday

Tuesday, the Franklin Garden Club was host to a meeting of District 1, N. C. Federation of Garden Clubs, at the Franklin Presbyterian Church.

Approximately 100 women from clubs in Asheville, Canton, Tryon, Waynesville, Rosman, and Brevard, were present for the district meeting, which was the first held here since the local club federated with the state organization some three years ago.

Registration opened at 9:30, and the business session got under way at 10. The meeting was called to order by Miss Louise Ballard, district director. The invocation was given by the Rev. J. Bryan Hatchett, Presbyterian pastor. Background music was furnished by Mrs. Margaret Cooper, pianist, and Miss Alice Weaver, vocalist.

The women were welcomed by Mrs. R. G. Lichtenstein, Franklin president, and the response was made by Mrs. F. J. Lhata, president of the Kenilworth Garden Club, Asheville.

Highlight of the morning session was an address by Mrs. E. A. Palmgren, state president, who also reported on her recent trip to a garden club board meeting in New York and a visit to the Botanical Gardens of the United Nations.

The session also was marked by reports from club presidents. Following adjournment, the women attended a luncheon at Panorama Court, where Mrs. George Little, state chairman of awards, presented the Kenilworth and Rosman clubs with awards for year books. The Skyland club won the attendance award.

A report on the progress of the Elizabethan Garden was made by Mrs. J. B. Clanton, state news director. She showed pictures of some of the outstanding features of the 16th century English garden, which is being developed on the Carolina coast.

TEAM FIGHT TO DEADLOCK

'New Look' Displayed By Panthers In Game With Robbinsville

A revitalized Franklin High football team dropped up here Friday night and battled to a 0 to 0 deadlock with a smooth-working eleven from Robbinsville High.

The Panthers definitely displayed

ATTEND GAME

The Franklin High Panthers attended the Georgia-L.S. U. game in Athens Saturday as guests of Bulldog Coach Wally Butts. The trip was arranged by C. S. Brown, of Franklin, long-time friend of the coach Butts. This Saturday the team will attend the Western Carolina College-Lenoir Rhyne game at Cullowhee as guests of W.C.C. Coach Tom Young.

played a "new look" for local football fans as the game rocked back and forth between the

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Highlands C. C. Slates Election Tuesday Night

The election of directors will feature a meeting of the Highlands Chamber of Commerce Tuesday night at 7:30, and someone attending stands to receive a free membership in the organization, according to President V. W. McCall.

Mr. McCall said the meeting is open to the public and everyone is invited to vote in the election.

The nominating committee is composed of Dr. Jessie M. Hadden, John Burnette, and W. H. Cobb.

A drawing will be held at the close of the meeting to determine who will receive the free membership.

The election of directors has been changed from the Spring to the Fall, the president explained, so "the new directors will be able to work out a full program for the coming year."

TWO KILL/DEER

Edward Franks and T. A. Tison, both of Arden, were arrested on Buck Creek Saturday by Patrolman H. T. Ferguson and were charged with killing a deer out of season. A preliminary hearing has been set for October 30 before Justice of the Peace Sam J. Murray.