



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

A vivid picture of the ticklish Mau Mau uprising in Kenya, British East Africa, was painted for Franklin Rotarians last Wednesday night by Frank Loyd, (center), who has spent 15 years in Kenya. At right is Dr. T. C. Nelson, research forester at Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory, who introduced Mr. Loyd. Present as a guest (left) was Dr. C. E. Hursh, of Asheville, division chief of the Southeastern Forest Experiment Station in Asheville, who has just returned from Kenya.

## Desire For Land Underlying Cause Of Mau Mau Uprising

A desire for land, stiffened by an almost phenomenal increase in population, is at the root of the savage Mau Mau uprisings in British East Africa. This information comes from a native Englishman, whose 15 years in the colony of Kenya qualify him as an expert on the affairs of the British-governed land.

Addressing the Franklin Rotary Club here last Wednesday night, Frank Loyd, district commissioner of Fort Hall (Kenya), traced the economic troubles of the land of five and a quarter million blacks, and offered his personal opinions as to the reasons back of the Mau Mau uprising and the inhuman slaughter of some 20 whites and more than 1,000 loyal Africans, who have fallen prey to the mauling bands of rebellious blacks.

Mr. Loyd is in this country studying American methods of advancing agriculture and forestry in the hope that this knowledge will enable the British to increase the productivity of the land in Kenya—a knotty problem in the country's internal affairs and one Mr. Loyd feels is directly connected with Mau Mau recruiting. He spent last week studying experiments under way at the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory here.

Since Kenya is primarily an agricultural country, land is foremost in the minds of the people, the speaker explained. But a sky-rocketing population, which is expected to double in the next 25 years, has cut heavily into the amount of land suitable for cultivation.

This situation, while not entirely to blame, has been used by the fanatic Mau Mau extremists to recruit new blood and drive the white man out of the land of the blacks.

"Sixty years ago, this land was in a semi-barbarous state",

## Politics Static

Politics is relatively static here this week as prospective candidates for the May Democratic primary stand by for confirmation of Lee Barnard's appointment as county elections board chairman so they can officially file.

The Franklin man's appointment is expected to be acted upon by the State Board of Elections next week. Fred S. Moore of Franklin, Route 1, and Walter Bryson, of Highlands, are the other members of the new board.

## McKelvey Wins Speech Contest

Herbert McKelvey, 16-year-old Franklin High junior and son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. McKelvey, was adjudged local winner of an oratorical contest sponsored by the American Legion.

The contest was held Friday night in the school library, following a supper meeting of the P. T. A.

Miss Margaret Crawford, daughter of Mrs. Gilmer Crawford, was runner-up. The winner received \$10, the runner-up \$5.

Young McKelvey will go to Sylva tomorrow (Friday) night to compete in the district feature of the nation-wide contest. G. A. Jones, Jr., the Rev. R. D. Burnette, and County School Supt. Holland McSwain judged for the local feature.

## W. W. REEVES IS NEW HEAD OF CHAMBER

Franklin Group Sets March 9 As Date For Annual Supper Meet

W. W. Reeves, hardware merchant and well-known civic leader, is the new president of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce for 1954-55.

He was elected to the post Tuesday night at a meeting of the new chamber board of directors, which was selected in a mail election recently conducted by the commerce body. Others named to serve with him are Verlon Swafford, vice-president, and J. L. West, Jr., treasurer.

In addition to the above three men, the board is composed of Norman Blaine, C. Banks Finger, Erwin Patton, William Katenbrink, out-going president, and H. W. Cabe.

Mr. Swafford and Mr. Cabe are both hold-overs from last

## Treasurer To Speak

State Treasurer Edwin M. Gill will give the principal address at the Franklin Chamber of Commerce's annual dinner meeting here March 9. President William Katenbrink disclosed this week.

The dinner—a joint affair with the Rotary and Lions clubs—is planned for the Franklin High cafeteria at 7 o'clock.

Features of the meeting, including remarks by Mr. Katenbrink and the new commerce body president, W. W. Reeves, are now being worked out and will be announced next week, the president said.

year's board and are serving the last year of two year terms.

Mr. Blaine and Mr. Reeves were elected to two year terms. The remaining four—Mr. Finger, Mr. Patton, Mr. West, and Mr. Katenbrink—will serve for one year.

Mrs. Lasca E. Horsley was re-appointed secretary of the organization by the new board. A budget for the new year will be prepared tonight (Thursday) by Mr. Blaine, Mr. Patton, Mr. Katenbrink, and Mr. Reeves for presentation at the commerce body's annual dinner meeting March 9.

The new board and officers will officially take over their duties at this meeting.

## IOTLA-COWEE HIT BY RABIES

Health Official Says Situation 'Serious'; Clinics Scheduled

Officials of the local health department are moving swiftly this week to halt what could be "a very serious" outbreak of rabies in the Iotla-Cowee sections.

Four suspected cases of rabies in dogs were reported Monday by Sanitarian H. T. Collins and Dr. O. H. Burnside, county rabies inspector. Tuesday, a report from a laboratory in Atlanta, Ga., definitely established that one of the animals was rabid. Reports have not been received on the other three, Mr. Collins said.

One of the dogs, now under observation, bit 12-year-old Leroy Holland on the leg Saturday. If the dog is rabid, the boy, who is the son of Kerma Holland, will be given appropriate anti-rabies treatment, the sanitarian said.

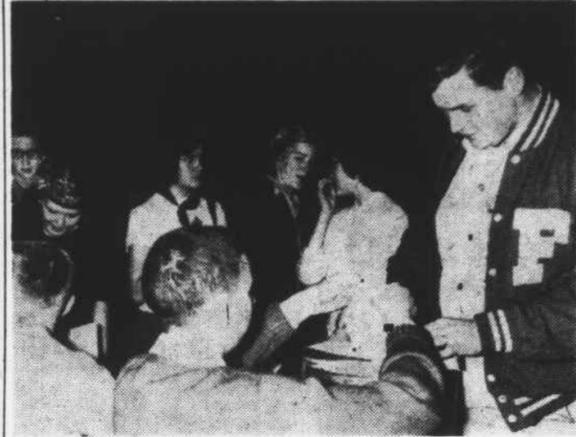
Rabies vaccination clinics for dogs are scheduled in the two areas—the only ones in the county reporting cases—tomorrow (Friday) and Saturday by Dr. Burnside.

The veterinarian will set up shop tomorrow afternoon from 4:30 to 6 o'clock at Paul Swafford's Store.

Saturday, from 8 to 10 a. m., he will be at Tom Rickman's Store; from 10 to 11 at J. R. Holbrook's; and from 11 to 12 at the old Leatherman post office.

Because of the seriousness of the situation, Dr. Burnside said he will pinpoint his activities in the two communities for the time being. Clinics will be held SEE NO. 3, PAGE 12

## Student Officials Taking Over Town And County Governments On Friday



Balloting At Franklin High

## Dinnes Gets Appointment To Annapolis

A 17-year-old Franklin High senior, William (Bill) Dinnes, has been appointed to the U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., by Congressman George A. Shuford.

Young Dinnes, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Dinnes, of Franklin, will enter the academy in June, following his graduation from high school. His father is general manager of the Mica Development Corporation.

This past football season, young Dinnes was 1st string end with the Panthers.

## Driver School Headquarters

Franklin is headquarters for an 11-county school to certify teachers as instructors of Driver Education Programs, County School Supt. Holland McSwain has announced.

An organizational meeting was held here Tuesday.

Teachers of the area will come here once a month for the next three months to take special courses leading to certification as instructors.

The dates for the sessions, which will be held at Franklin High School, are March 22, April 3, and May 3. Instructors from the N. C. Department of Public Instruction will be John C. Noe, advisor in safety education, and George D. Maddrey, associate in safety education.

In addition to Macon, teachers will come from Buncombe, Clay, Cherokee, Graham, Swain, Haywood, Jackson, Transylvania, Henderson, and Madison.

## ESCAPEE HAS BRIEF FLING

Breaks From Camp, Steals Car, Caught By S. C. Deputy

It was a brief taste of freedom for a 32-year old prisoner, who broke out of the Macon Prison Camp last Thursday night, stole a Franklin man's car, and headed South.

Friday morning the escapee, Loyd L. Hite, of Richmond County, fell into the web of a three-state alarm and was arrested in Hartsville, S. C., slightly more than 12 hours after he pried the bars out of a window at the prison camp and headed for freedom.

Hite's break could have had serious repercussions. Only the alertness of Guard Carl Tippett prevented other prisoners from escaping through the window, according to Camp Superintendent J. R. Overton.

The guard spotted the twisted bars soon after Hite made his break and sounded the alarm. Thirty-three other prisoners were in the compound.

"I feel certain the guard's alertness prevented a serious situation", Mr. Overton declared.

With bloodhounds hot on his trail, Hite circled a good part of Franklin in his flight, finally stealing an automobile belonging to J. C. Simmonds. The car was parked near the Franklin Mineral Products, Inc., on Depot Street, where Mr. Simmonds works.

The prison superintendent said Hite, who is serving 15 to 25 years for kidnapping a state SEE NO. 4, PAGE 17

## LAW SMASHES THEFT RING IN BIG RAID

Highlands Break-ins Cleared By Arrests; Men Hit Two States

The cloak of mystery surrounding the looting of some 60 unoccupied summer homes in seven counties of North and South Carolina—including 13 in the Highlands area here—was ripped away last Thursday in Transylvania County when officers smashed an organized theft ring in a surprise raid.

Sheriff J. Harry Thomas, who was in on the raid along with officers of both states, reported the arrest of five men, all of the Brevard area.

Four of the five were brought to Highlands Tuesday morning for a preliminary hearing before Justice of the Peace Sam J. Murray, of Franklin, and were bound over to Superior Court under stiff bonds.

The four—Herbert Hoover Volraph, 25, Jimmy Volraph, 21, Ray McCall, 21, and Ernest Fisher, 18—face 12 counts each of breaking, entering and larceny for their lucrative sweep through the Highlands area. The fifth member of the ring, Paul Barnes, 20, was not charged here.

Although 13 homes were broken into in the Highlands area, Sheriff Thomas said only 12 charges were lodged against the men because two places belonging to the same man were entered.

Most of the articles taken from the homes here were recovered in the raid, the sheriff said. However, he added that a complete report cannot be made until the home owners make positive identifications.

Property loss and damage to the 13 dwellings were estimated at more than \$3,000 by the sheriff.

A bottle of vodka stolen from the Highlands home of Dr. Logan Robinson furnished the first substantial clue toward cracking the rash of break-ins, which had officers of the two states and seven counties working around the clock for more than three weeks.

One of the members of the ring tried to sell the strange brand of whiskey in Brevard, Sheriff Thomas said. His action was reported and the officers immediately pinpointed their investigations on this solid clue and moved in for the kill.

Thursday's raid on the homes of the ring members was led by Transylvania Sheriff John Kilpatrick. The officers recovered thousands of dollars worth of loot, including pistols, rifles, shotguns, appliances, clothing, and jewelry.

The theft ring was believed to have been involved in 60 summer home break-ins in Macon, Jackson, and Swain, in this state, and Greenville and Pickens counties in South Carolina, Sheriff Thomas said.

Highlands Mayor W. H. Cobb and Gordon Talley, also of Highlands, went along with the raiding party as spectators.

Other members of the party included Swain County Sheriff I. B. Jenkins, Jackson County Sheriff Frank Allen, Brevard Sheriff J. H. Corpening, Transylvania deputies, Paul Mason and Charles Eskew, Asheville, County deputies, Warren Garrett, Pickens County Sheriff, State Patrolmen Bill Sawyer and Jack Cade, of Brevard, S. P. I. Annet, P. R. Kitchener, and S. P. I. L. PAGE 7

## Local Girl Becomes Mother At 13



Mr. Judy Ann Buckner, who created quite a stir here last year when she married at the tender age of 13, became a mother Tuesday at 12:05 a. m. at Angel Clinic. It's a daughter, Barbara Ann, who weighed in at five pounds. Mrs. Buckner, who stands just five feet tall and weighs 60 pounds, seems pleased about her offspring. She and her husband, Kenneth, 27, were married March 12, 1953, in Waihalla, S. C., nine days after Judy Ann celebrated her 13th birthday.

The Weather

FRANKLIN		
	High	Low
Wednesday	51	33
Thursday	59	24
Friday	61	23
Saturday	54	46 2.02
Sunday	56	42 .11
Monday	59	29 trace
Tuesday	62	22

Temperatures

COWEETA		
	High	Low
Wednesday	56	39 .96
Thursday	55	19
Friday	58	26
Saturday	56	46 .39
Sunday	60	38 3.05
Monday	60	31
Tuesday	62	22