



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

PARENTS JOINED their Scouts at the Smoky Mountain District Camporee for a picnic lunch Sunday afternoon at the Big Laurel campground near Cowee Bald. Some of them are shown devouring "chow". Kneeling at left front is B. B. Scott, of Franklin, district camping chairman.

District Scouts And Leaders End 3-Day Camporee Here

One hundred thirty-five boys and 20 leaders turned the 1954 Smoky Mountain District Boy Scout Camporee into "one of the most successful we've ever held", according to B. B. Scott, of Franklin, camping chairman. The boys broke camp on the three-day outing Sunday afternoon at the Big Laurel campground near Cowee Bald and returned to their homes in Macon, Jackson, and Swain counties.

More than 125 parents and friends toured the camp site and had lunch with the boys on the closing day.

Field Scout Executive Tom Speed, of Asheville, described the camporee as one of the best he had attended, "because the younger boys really applied themselves and in most cases taught the older Scouts a thing or two about camping."

The boys spent Friday making camp. Inspection was held Saturday morning and the traditional "stunt night" was presented in the evening, with patrols giving humorous skits and stunts. Sunday School was held by Mr. Speed, followed by demonstrations on firemaking, cooking, and camping know-how.

Sixty-one Scouts from this county attended from the Franklin, Highlands, Union, and Carson troops.

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Priming On Cowee Link Under Way

Priming—a preliminary to paving—got under way on the Franklin-Cowee Gap (US 23) project Monday and barring bad weather the entire 7.34-mile paving job should be finished in three weeks, according to S. T. Usry, highway resident engineer.

About a mile and a half of priming was put down Monday near the gap before rain halted operations, he reported yesterday (Wednesday).

Mr. Usry said work on the Cowee Gap-Dillsboro project—an extension of the Macon stretch—is "going along pretty well on schedule." Paving of this link, which was started last year, is programmed for 1955.

2 Escapees Are Caught In East

Morganton officers Wednesday of last week apprehended the two convicts who escaped from a road gang near Franklin May 19, according to J. R. Overton, superintendent of the Macon Prison Camp.

The escapees were Milton Pate Austin, 23, of Gastonia, and Jerry Looper, 17, of Rockingham. Both are serving terms at the local prison camp for larceny. They made their escape from a road gang working on the River Bend Road.

Mr. Overton said officers spotted the two walking in downtown Morganton.

With the arrest of the two, the sheriff's department discounted the theory that they were responsible for the theft of an automobile May 20 from Macon Motor Company. The automobile was found abandoned in Georgia. At that time officers theorized at least one of the men may have stolen it.

'Don't Worry' Sailor Reports After Disaster

"Don't worry. I'm all right. Letter will follow."

This simply worded telegram was wonderful news for Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Rogers, of Franklin, Route 2.

It was from their son, Albert, a crewman aboard the carrier USS Bennington, which last Thursday was rocked by a mysterious explosion that claimed the lives of 99 men in one of the worst peacetime disasters in U. S. Navy history.

The Rogers' son, a veteran of 14 years service, was transferred to the ill-fated carrier only three weeks ago from the Hornet.

The 3,000-ton carrier was about 75 miles at sea off Quonset Point, R. I., when the explosion ripped it below decks.

ARMY WORM HITS MACON

Agent Says Situation Could Become Serious; Treatments Are Given

An all-out effort has been launched by the county agent's office to check an outbreak of army worms in some sections of the county.

Heavy damage has been reported on farms in the Millshoal and Cartoogechaye townships, according to Assistant Agent T. H. Fagg.

"This problem could become very serious if not dealt with in the early stages", he declared.

The agent said the pests are particularly causing damage to alfalfa fields and in some areas have spread to young corn, gardens, and other crops.

He urged all farmers to check their fields for signs of the worms, especially alfalfa fields if alfalfa is not growing out after being mowed. Army worms are very similar in appearance to cut worms, Mr. Fagg explained, and frequently are mistaken for them.

Control measures can be taken to stop the outbreak, he said, if treatment is early enough.

Control measures: One and a half pounds of DDT or Toxaphene in water per acre as a spray, or poison baits of Toxaphene and bran, paris green and bran, for small fields of row crops.

Azalea Blooming

Flame azalea—the flower that has made Wayah Bald something of a famous "must" on the tourist agenda—is beginning to bloom at the lower elevations of the mile-high bald, Ranger John Wasilik reported this week.

The flower should be at its height this week and next in the lower areas, he said, and on top of the bald about June 15.

TURN UNIFORMS IN
Principal Ralph L. Smith has asked all members of the Franklin Band to turn their uniforms in to the Franklin Laundry and Dry Cleaners for cleaning and moth-proofing.

Freight Key To Operation Of Railroad

Freight is the only hope of survival for the financially shaky Tallulah Falls Railway Company, which operated in the red during 1953 in this county, according to H. L. Brewer, receiver and general manager.

In a letter to Franklin Agent R. G. Beshears, the general manager reported a loss of \$5,075.65 for the year.

He described a heavy decrease of loaded cars since the first of this year as "alarming". Up to May 21, the railroad noted a decrease of 557 loaded cars as compared with the same period in 1953.

"This situation is alarming," Mr. Brewer declared, "... the Tallulah Falls Railway, to insure continued operation, must earn sufficient revenue to pay its cash expenses."

He said he believed the railway could survive if shippers and receivers of freight will give the railway preference when transportation is needed.

"However, to do so, it must have the support of all interested people in its territory," he emphasized.

In September, 1953, the Tallulah Falls lost the mail contract it had held for 45 years, to a star route running from Cornelia, Ga. The morning mail train was discontinued, but the afternoon freight schedule was not changed.

During 1953, the company earned \$296,711.70, but spent \$301,787.35 for operation and maintenance—a cash loss of \$5,075.65.

Mr. Brewer said the cost of maintaining the railway's tracks and 43 trestles was \$167,446.94—better than 50 per cent of the total revenue for the year.

HICKORY KNOLL MEETING

A singing will be held as a feature of the Hickory Knoll Rural Community Development Organization's regular meeting tomorrow (Friday) night, it has been announced. Tom Henson and his quartet will lead the singing. The meeting is set for 8 o'clock at the church.

Mild (?) June Debut Tuesday Assaults Macon, Outs Power

June—usually a very mild-mannered month—pulled a Jekyll-Hyde on its debut here Tuesday and rocked Macon County under a heavy assault of rain, thunder, and lightning.

The storm picture: Nantahala Power and Light Company's entire system was blanked out briefly in the afternoon.

Western Carolina Telephone Company had all crews working on "trouble" yesterday (Wednesday), according to Vice-President R. E. McKelevy.

Farms seemed to escape any serious damage from the deluge of rain (1.73 inches in Franklin) and hail.

The power company had more than its share of troubles from lightning. At 2:50 p. m., an overloaded main power line be-

BAND FUTURE DIM; DIRECTOR IS DISMISSED

Instrument Loss And Lack Of Space Behind Actions Of Boards

S. F. (Sammy) Beck has been dismissed as director of the Franklin Band and the future of the band is anything but bright.

County School Supt. Holland McSwain Monday reported the County Board of Education and the district school committee feel it is "not practical to have a school band under the present conditions" and the director has been notified his services will not be needed next year.

The band, organized in 1949 by Mr. Beck, was virtually wiped out by fire at the old high school building in March and until school closed operated with borrowed instruments. In addition, the superintendent said, satisfactory practice quarters for the band have not been found since the fire.

"This does not necessarily mean we will not have a band this fall," he declared, "for there is a good chance there will be one."

The future of the band hinges on raising \$5,000 to provide school-owned instruments and satisfactory practice quarters, he said.

But, in view of the present circumstances, Mr. McSwain said the two boards made the decision to dismiss the director "in all fairness to him" in the event the band is not reactivated this fall.

"However, Mr. Beck was informed that when, and if, these facilities are provided, he will be given first consideration as director", the superintendent said.

Instrument loss to the band in the fire was estimated at \$24,000.

The band followed through on its annual spring concert recently with instruments borrowed from Western Carolina College. Practice sessions were held in the high school cafeteria and at Slagle Memorial Building.

School Men Seek Funds For County

County School Supt. Holland McSwain and A. A. Siler left Monday for Raleigh to seek approval of state funds for the proposed school building program in this county.

Mr. McSwain described the trip as another step toward arranging Macon's allocation for school building and expansion.

PROGRAM APPROVED
The state review panel Tuesday approved Macon's school building program for "immediate classroom needs, including lunchrooms at Cowee and Otto and a new gymnasium at Franklin", Supt. McSwain reported by telephone from Raleigh.

Approval was given, he said, on the condition that funds are available for the building program. The superintendent did not elaborate on "immediate classroom needs", but said he would give a complete report for publication next week.

Mr. McSwain said the review board will present the program to the State Board of Education today (Thursday) for its approval.

under the \$50,000,000 bond issue passed last October.

He and Mr. Siler, a member of the school board, Tuesday appeared before a state review panel and outlined the needs at the individual schools and explained the proposed expansion program.

"The sooner we can get through these preliminaries", the school superintendent said, "the sooner construction can begin."

The two plan to return late today (Thursday) or tomorrow morning.

HYDE RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIP

Will Study Aboard On Rotary Grant; Is N.Y.U. Law Graduate

Herbert L. Hyde, of Franklin, has been awarded a \$2,000 scholarship for a year's advanced study at Oxford University, England.

The scholarship is given by this (the 280th) Rotary district as a memorial to Chan Gordon, former district governor, and the local Rotary Club has been notified that Mr. Hyde has been selected as this year's recipient.

Mr. and Mrs. Hyde, the former—SEE NO. 3, PAGE 12

At Craft Camp

Ten Macon women are attending a three-day Home Demonstration Craft Camp, which closes today (Thursday) at Camp Schaub near Waynesville.

They are Mrs. Eugene Couch, Mrs. J. D. Dayton, Mrs. Dorothy Bowers, Mrs. Harriett Echols, Mrs. Effie Hunt, Mrs. Roscoe Higdon, Mrs. Robert Burnette, Mrs. Ray Williamson, Mrs. R. L. McGaha, and Mrs. H. E. Freas.

Macon Joins State In Nominating Scott

THE WINNER—



W. Kerr Scott

Houk Beats Finger; Solicitor Outcome Still Is Unknown

Macon joined the rest of the state in giving W. Kerr Scott the nomination to the U. S. Senate in Saturday's Democratic primary over the former governor's chief opponent, U. S. Sen. Alton A. Lennon.

Just who won the nomination in the hotly-contested Senate race was not known until Tuesday's official vote tabulations were made over the state, giving Mr. Scott a clear majority of 4,187 over Sen. Lennon. Although the former governor held a good lead from the start, Sen. Lennon did not concede until the official tally was made.

Out of a total primary vote here of 2,809, Mr. Scott received 1,620 to Sen. Lennon's 1,099. The other five candidates in the race—Alvin Wingfield, Jr., W. M. Bostick, A. E. Turner, Olla Ray Boyd, and Henry L. Sprinkle—collected only 46 votes between themselves.

It was a near-perfect day for an election. Some scattered showers in the morning failed to slow the steady stream of voters. The vote of 2,809 compared favorably with the largest primary vote of 3,237 registered in 1950.

Locally, the contest between Guy L. Houk, Franklin lawyer and former school superintendent, and C. Banks Finger, Franklin lawyer, for the state House of Representatives nomination drew high interest, especially in the high-voting Franklin precinct. Mr. Houk emerged winner with 1,578 votes to Mr. Finger's 1,168.

E. B. Duvall, of Franklin, Route 3, lost out in the six-man county race for the five-man County Board of Education with 1,516 votes. Running second low was the incumbent board chairman, J. C. Sorrells, with 1,802. Incumbents A. A. Siler, of Franklin, and Claude W. Cabe, of Otto, ran high in the race with 2,092 and 2,040, respectively. Frank Plyler, Franklin businessman, polled 1,945 and John E. Smith, of Franklin, 1,783, to round out the board.

Sheriff J. Harry Thomas experienced no difficulty in getting his party's nomination with 2,437—the highest vote received by any candidate in the primary. His opponent, Charlie Curtis, of Otto, received 372 votes.

Incumbent John Roane, of Cartoogechaye, and Wiley Brown, Franklin businessman, won nominations to the three-member Board of County Commissioners by substantial margins. Mr. Roane received 1,857 and Mr. Brown 1,950. The third member, Chairman W. E. (Gene) Baldwin, was unopposed and automatically received the nomination.

In the five-county 33rd Senatorial District race, H. M. Moore, of Hayesville, ran high in this county and also won the nomination. He polled 1,992 votes to Tom J. Herbert's 911. Mr. Herbert also is of Hayesville. Under a rotation system, SEE NO. 4, PAGE 12

2 Are Injured
Charles Setser, of Franklin, and Howard Crunkleton, of Gneiss, were injured Tuesday in a construction accident that electrocuted a fellow construction worker, according to an Associated Press story.

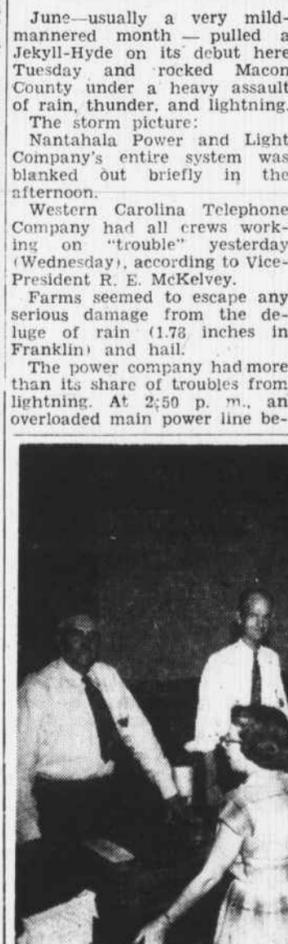
The account said the men were unloading steel beams from a truck when a crane boom swung close to high tension wires, causing electricity to jump from the wires to the boom and strike the men.

The two Macon men are recovering, the report said.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, U. S. weather observer, and at the Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory.

| | FRANKLIN | |
|-----------|----------|----------|
| | High | Low |
| Wednesday | 80 | 53 |
| Thursday | 81 | 45 |
| Friday | 76 | 61 .04 |
| Saturday | 82 | 55 trace |
| Sunday | 81 | 57 |
| Monday | 82 | 55 |
| Tuesday | 80 | 62 1.78 |



VOTING WAS LIVELY IN MACON in Saturday's Democratic primary. At left Franklin voters line up to cast their ballots under the watchful eyes of election officials—but not before having to stand in line (upper right) to get into a voting booth. At lower right, officials are shown tallying Franklin's vote at the "count-out", which ran into Sunday morning.