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Late News and Briefs

LOOKING FOR SITE

The Franklin Board of Aldermen is scouring the town for a suitable lot on which to construct the proposed municipal building if the special bond issue to finance it carries September 28.

In session Tuesday night, the board was offered a lot on Palmer Street between the Coffey and Jamison homes by Grover Jamison, Sr. Yesterday morning, Mayor W. C. Burrell also contacted Dr. E. W. Fisher about the availability of his lot below Macon Theatre building. Frank B. Duncan also has offered to sell the town a lot in the Duncan sub-division at the intersection of West Main and US 23-441. The town has taken an option to buy the latter lot and probably will take options on the other sites offered in order to be "at least on some kind of solid ground before the election", Mayor Burrell said.

LITTLETON ELECTED

The Rev. B. B. Littleton, pastor of the Cowee Baptist Church, is the new president of the Macon Baptist Pastors Conference. Named to serve with him are the Rev. M. C. Wyatt, of the Mt. Hope church, vice-president, and the Rev. C. T. Taylor, associational missionary. The conference met Monday morning at the First church. Conference met Monday morning at the First church.

VISITOR IS INJURED

Mrs. Lula B. Altman, 82, of Bradenton, Fla., is reported "improving" at Angel Hospital from injuries received Monday morning in a fall on Harrison Avenue.

Members of her family said she had been admiring a vine in the yard of the Frank L. Henry, Jr., home and fell down the steps to the sidewalk when returning to the car.

Mrs. Altman received a compound fracture of the left arm, a concussion, and cuts and bruises, the hospital reported.

HIGHLANDS CLUB MEETS

A meeting of the Highlands Garden Club is set today (Thursday) at 2:30 p. m., at the Flamingo Room of the Highlands Community Hospital. Hostesses will be Mrs. T. H. Tyson and Mrs. T. E. Binford.

SIMS TO SPEAK HERE

William Sims, circuit supervisor from the New York headquarters of the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society, will speak in the Kingdom Hall of the Jehovah's Witnesses in the Asher Building Saturday at 8 p. m.

WEST CHILD IMPROVING

Diana Lynn West, 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. L. West, of Franklin, who was taken to the Asheville Orthopedic Hospital on Monday of last week for treatment of polio, is reported to be improving.

Macon's first polio victim of the year, Bill Jamison, 7, has returned home following treatment at the Asheville hospital. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Grover Jamison, Jr., of Franklin.

WE'RE SORRY FOLKS!

The front page of this issue looks bare, doesn't it? Well, dear readers, we DID, but they DIDN'T; in other words, we had plenty of pictures for this issue — football shots, a big trout, and a couple of picture illustrations for two interesting feature articles. But, as luck would have it, we didn't have any luck! Somewhere between the engraver in Waynesville and Franklin, the engravings of the pictures were misplaced. At any rate, although they were sent off Saturday, The Press had not received them by press time.

RUMMAGE SALE SLATED

A rummage sale under the sponsorship of the Cullasaja Home Demonstration Club is slated Saturday morning on Rankin Square in Franklin, it has been announced. Proceeds are for the club.

Beck At Sylva High

S. F. Beck, band director at Franklin High last year, is now band director at Sylva High School.

Franklin Tax Boost Unlikely As Result Of New Bond Issue

Franklin's proposed \$50,000 bond issue to finance construction of a modern municipal building "will not force an increase in the tax rate", if the town's present financial condition is any indication, Mayor W. C. Burrell said in an interview this week.

Rumors that the present \$1.10 per hundred rate will have to be upped next fiscal year to finance the proposed city building are unfounded, the mayor declared.

"Increased property valuation each year should amply take care of the indebtedness of putting up the building," Mr. Burrell explained, "and we can think of no reason why people would think we plan to raise the tax rate just because we want to take a step forward."

Outlining the town's plans to provide a building where all town activities and equipment would be under one roof, the mayor commented: "any man knows it is bad business to leave equipment out in the open where it can weather." He pointed to the present situation — no garage facilities or storage, the auxiliary fire truck is in a shack below the present small fire house, and the town office is in the Bank of Franklin building.

Franklin's bonded indebtedness currently stands at \$113,000, according to Town Clerk C. O. Ramsey, who also commented that the town should be able to handle the new bond issue without raising taxes. Mr. Ramsey said it will depend to some extent on the collection of taxes and other revenues; and the town clerk rates as one of the highest in the state in tax collections. His average is 98 per cent.

The town's present indebtedness comes from \$120,000 bond issue passed in 1946 for sewer, water, and street improvements, the clerk explained. Of the amount, \$90,000 was for sewer-water work and \$30,000 for streets.

A check of town records shows the tax rate was raised to \$1.25 per hundred in 1947, supposedly to finance the 1946 bonded indebtedness. However, in 1948, the Board of Aldermen cut the rate back to \$1.10, when it was decided the 15-cent increase was unnecessary. The rate has been \$1.10 since.

In reviewing the financial report, Mr. Ramsey said four or five more years of Powell Bill funds should see every street within the city limits paved. When this happens, he said the budget committee will not have to set up funds for permanent improvements in the street department, thereby relieving funds to pay on indebtedness.

For the most part, the town government operates not on the tax levy revenue but on special revenues, including privilege taxes, water and sewer revenues, and parking meter proceeds.

The auditor's break-down shows most of the \$1.10 tax levy goes for permanent improvements.

The coal? It's piled outside.

SCHOOL BOARD VISIT SCHEME IS ADOPTED

Plans Visits To All
Schools During Year;
Turn Down Property

The Macon County Board of Education is going to get closer to its work under a new school visitation scheme.

In session Monday morning, the board decided in the future to hold a short business meeting each month at the courthouse and then visit a school in the system. In this way, the board hopes to visit all 11 schools during the school year.

County School Supt. Holland McSwain said the school to be visited by the board will be notified well in advance so school patrons may plan to meet with the board and discuss problems.

With an eye to future expansion at Franklin High, the board considered the purchase of about three acres of land near the high school from Frank Leach. However, the idea was dropped because of a lack of funds for the purpose. Mr. Leach had informed Board Chairman J. C. Sorrells that he would be willing to sell the property, which is across the street from the school on the south side.

To Class In A Coal Bin

They're going to class in the coal bin at Franklin High this year.

No, a course in mining isn't the cause; it's the ever-present shortage of classrooms. Last year school officials put the library and cafeteria (and some shade trees in the spring) on double-duty to alleviate the situation. But this year, with even more students, there was no place to go — but to the coal bin.

The has-been coal bin was emptied and partitioned into two small rooms with a door running off the cafeteria. One will serve as a classroom, the other as a combination book room-cafeteria storage for the school.

"We had to do something," declared Principal Ralph L. Smith.

The coal? It's piled outside.

Mrs. Rachel May Succumbs Sunday; Nantahala Native

Mrs. Rachel L. May, a native of the Nantahala section of this county, died Sunday at 2 p. m. at the home of a son, Harley May, at Nantahala. She was 77 and had been ill for the past 10 days.

Funeral services for Mrs. May were conducted Monday at 2 p. m. at the Briartown Baptist Church by the Rev. F. Doyle Freeman, pastor. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Born May 17, 1877, Mrs. May was the daughter of Joe E. and Mrs. Caroline Forester Mason. She was married to William B. May, who died a number of years ago, and was a member of the Briartown church.

Survivors include five sons, Harley, Manuel, and Claude, of Nantahala, Creed, of Valdese, and Lester, of Robbinsville; a daughter, Mrs. Alice Waldrop, of Robbinsville; two brothers, Mark and Walter Mason, of Hamilton, Ohio; three sisters, Mrs. Elsie McIntyre and Mrs. Dora Grindstaff, of Robbinsville, and Mrs. Rosa B. May, of Nantahala, and 30 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Palbearers were Edd and Grady May, Carl Cross, Walter Shields, and Gene and Buford Owenby.

Potts Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Semi-Annual Sing At Windy Gap Church

The semi-annual sing of the northern division of the Macon County Singing Convention is planned Sunday at 10 a. m. at the Windy Gap Baptist Church. It has been announced. Picnic lunch will be served on the grounds at noon, according to John Campbell, president, who said all singers and the public are invited to attend the sing.

Panthers Trounce Clayton Eleven 38 To 0 In Opener

In opening their 1954 season here Friday night, a smoothly-working pack of Panthers left fans wide-eyed and well-pleased by mauling a game Clayton (Ga.) High eleven 38 to 0.

An estimated 2,000 fans were on hand for the dusty two-state duel, which saw the Panthers score almost at will, although Coach Howard Barnwell cleared his bench throughout the game to give his embryo Panthers needed experience.

Tomorrow (Friday) night, the highly-favored Andrews team will meet the Panthers here for the first Smoky Mountain Conference tilt on Franklin's schedule. The kickoff will be at 8 o'clock.

In Friday night's non-conference scrap with Clayton, Coach Barnwell's charges fired over touchdowns in all periods but the second and were never seriously threatened by the Claytonites, who were unable to launch a successful attack.

Although light by conference standards, the Panthers made up for the weight differential with plenty of enthusiasm and team play.

In nine plays from the opening kick-off, the Panthers scored with Back Bobby Womack doing the honors through the line from the 36 and kicking the extra point. Still in the first quarter, the Panthers stopped a Clayton attack cold and Womack again trucked over the goal in an 18-yard jaunt for the second TD.

Following a scoreless second period, the Panthers pawed again and pushed the score to 18 to 0 when Back Richard Renshaw scampered 41 yards for another tally.

In the final frame, with a number of reserves in the line and backfield, the Panthers fired over three more scores, one a weaving broken-field run by Back Crawford Moore as the gun sounded. The first one came on a pass from Bobby Jack Love to End Herbert McKeivey. The play covered 80 yards with McKeivey outrunning a lone Clayton man on his heels for the past 40 yards. Womack came through again and Moore went over for the extra point. Minutes later on a pass interception, Moore tore loose on his weaving paydirt run and Womack put over the extra.

The director's schedule shows he will visit Otto, Union, and Cartoogechaye each Monday morning; Cowee, Iotla, and East Franklin each Tuesday; Highlands and Cullasaja each Wednesday; and Nantahala each Thursday. He will spend all day Friday and Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday afternoons at Franklin.

However, this year, because of the inavailability of funds for an extra director, the job of directing the band and instructing in the schools will be up to Mr. Orr.

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Marines Land! Band Gets Hand

The Marines have landed! Monday morning Franklin Band Director Theodore Orr received this letter:

"Just happened to see in The Franklin Press this morning of your need for arrangements for the high school band. We did not have much of a variety in stock, but an enclosing under separate covers copies of what we had on hand. Hope this will be some help to you."

The letter was signed by T/Sgt. Joseph H. Lathrop, U. S. Marine Corps, of the Asheville recruiting office.

And as promised, the director found under separate covers arrangements of the Star Spangled Banner and the Marines' Hymn.

A story in last week's issue of The Press on the band director's unsuccessful efforts to locate music in time for the opening football game Friday night put the Leathernecks wise for a welcome "landing" here.

Bradleys Mark 50th Anniversary

On August 22, Mr. and Mrs. W. Ray Bradley, of the Oak Grove Community, celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversary (50th) with a picnic dinner at their home.

Present for the celebration were their six children, Paul Bradley, of Florence, Ala., Mrs. Nina Hall, of Bryson City, Howard Bradley and Mrs. Vernon Phillips, of Franklin, Route 3, and Mrs. Morgan Shatley and Mrs. J. B. Pendergrass, of Franklin.

Scouts To Get Advancements

A number of Macon Boy Scouts are scheduled to receive advancements in rank and merit badges at a Smoky Mountain District Court of Honor tonight (Thursday) in Whittier, according to local Scout leaders.

The honor court will begin at 8 o'clock. Scouts will receive every rank, including Eagle, which will be awarded to a Whittier boy, it was said.

NANTAHALA TO CELEBRATE PAVING JOB

Event Is Slated
For Next Wednesday,
Cochran Announces

The Nantahala community will celebrate the blacktopping of the road from U. S. 19 at Beechertown to the Nantahala School, at a meeting next Wednesday night, (Sept. 15) at 7:30 o'clock at the school.

In calling the meeting, Weimer Cochran, president of the

WAYAH BID OPENED

The low bid for the relocation and construction of a 12-mile section of highway into the Nantahala Community via Wayah Gap was submitted by Taylor Construction Company, of Asheville. The bid was \$323,519.20.

Another Asheville concern, C. E. Crouch Company, was low for moving buildings with \$7,040.

Bids for the project were opened in Raleigh Tuesday. They are subject to the approval of the State Highway Commission today (Thursday).

Nantahala Community Development Organization, emphasized: "This is not just a Nantahala project; it affects Macon County as a whole. And every interested person in the county is cordially invited to the meeting."

Blacktopping of the five-mile stretch was completed by State Highway Commission forces the last of last week.

The road across Wayah Gap, which was scheduled for letting last Tuesday will extend to Feisty Branch, in the Nantahala area. That will leave unbuilt a link of only five miles, between Feisty Branch and the school. And one purpose of next week's meeting is to stimulate interest in getting that link built.

Division Commissioner Harry E. Buchanan and other highway officials have been invited to the meeting, it was understood.

Schools Get Court Gift

Macon schools can thank the August term of Superior Court here for \$5,150.20.

This amount came from fines, forfeitures, jury tax, solicitor fees, and highway patrol fees, all of which are earmarked for the school system under court procedure.

Of the total figure, the largest amount—\$2,275—came from court fines, according to Miss Kate McGee, clerk of court, who compiled the break-down. Forfeitures (defendants who forfeited bonds by not appearing to answer charges) came to \$2,125; jury tax, \$108; solicitor fees, \$520; and highway patrol fee, \$122.20, the clerk said.

The court term, one of the largest in several years, closed down last week. The next term is scheduled here in December.

JUDGE HEARS CIVIL CASES

Four divorces were granted and six other civil actions were heard by Judge Walter E. Johnston, Jr., before he closed the August term of Superior Court here Tuesday of last week.

The civil actions and dispositions were:

W. S. Darby, doing business as Auto Sales Company, vs. Wilbur Hedden, non-suit.

Harry B. Davis vs. Town of Franklin, continued to December term.

Weaver Cochran vs. Frank Neal, Dan Smith, and Carl Smith, defendant to pay costs of action.

Estelle Mashburn Morrow vs. W. H. Mashburn, plaintiff awarded \$1,200.

Alliefar Clark vs. R. W. Kirchengberg and T. D. Slagle, non-suit.

James McClure vs. Thomas Bayard Young and Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, plaintiff awarded \$200.

Two criminal actions disposed of by Judge Johnston Tuesday were Robert Bingham, drunk driving, sentenced to 8 months, and Raymond D. Dehen, speeding, ordered to pay costs.

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Prentiss PO Stays Open

An order from the U. S. Post Office Department closing the small Prentiss Post Office in this county on September 1 was rescinded by the department, according to Assistant Franklin Postmaster Henderson Calloway.

Although the Prentiss office has been allowed to continue operation, the Prentiss Star Route has been discontinued and patrons are now being served by Routes 1 and 2, Mr. Calloway announced.

No reason was given for rescinding the Prentiss office closing order.

In the past two years, several small post offices in this county have been closed under an economy program. Patrons are being served by rural mail carriers.

Talent Show At School

The Union School District Communities will sponsor a talent show Saturday night, beginning at 7:30, at the school auditorium.

Three local string bands will be on the program. There also will be singing and dancing. Refreshments will be served.

Proceeds will go for the benefit of the rural community development organization.

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	
Temperatures	
	High Low Rain
Wed., Sept. 1.....	84 45
Thursday.....	87 40
Friday.....	94 47
Saturday.....	96 50
Sunday.....	98 54
Monday.....	97 54
Tuesday.....	95 51

COWEETA	
Temperatures	
	High Low Rain
Wed., Sept. 1.....	80 44
Thursday.....	84 40
Friday.....	90 45
Saturday.....	93 49
Sunday.....	93 53
Monday.....	93 53
Tuesday.....	92 52