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HALF OUT OF THE WATER is the 1949 Plymouth which carried an elderly Illinois couple to their death in Lake Sequoyah near Highlands last Thursday. A woman passenger cheated death after being in the submerged automobile more than 40 minutes. The crowd is standing around the area where the victims were given artificial respiration.

Elderly Tourists Perish When Auto Sinks In Lake

Picturesque Lake Sequoyah, near Highlands, last Thursday claimed the lives of an elderly tourist couple when their automobile plunged into the lake and floated for a short time on the surface before slowly sinking out of sight as they screamed for help.

The victims were identified as Mr. and Mrs. Orin Evert Harmon, of Kewanee, Ill.

Passing motorists cheated the small resort lake out of a third victim by reviving Mrs. Harmon's sister, Miss Bessie Longmire, with artificial respiration. The slight 71-year-old woman was the

last of the three to be removed from the automobile, which was submerged in some 12 feet of water more than 40 minutes while motorists and Highlands citizens worked frantically to bring it to the surface.

Anxiously watching the drama unfold were Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Capperrone and their daughter, Miss Doris Capperrone, who were with the Harmon's, leading the two-car party when tragedy struck. They were returning from Florida. Mrs. Capperrone is a sister of Miss Longmire and the late Mrs. Harmon.

'Floating On Water'
There were no known eye witnesses to the early afternoon tragedy. A State Highway Department truck driver, Sam Jacobs, of Franklin, came along moments after the automobile careened down the steep embankment into the lake near the dam.

"I heard a horn blowing and I looked over toward the water", Mr. Jacobs told a reporter at the scene.

"I stopped and I could hear them hollering for help . . . just before it started nosing down."

He said the automobile was "floating on the water" when he first saw it and he could see at least two of its occupants "waving their arms."

Mr. Jacobs said it was "close to 2:30" when the accident happened.

More Help Arrives
Minutes later, Franklin Mayor W. C. Burrell and an employee, W. T. (Tommy) Jenkins drove on the scene and helped start rescue operations.

"Bubbles . . . big ones, were bubbling up", when they arrived, the mayor said.

The first rescue attempt was made by a "Mr. Owens", said to be from Gainesville, Ga., and a salesman for the International Fertilizer Company. He reportedly made three attempts to free the trapped trio from the 1949 Plymouth before quitting because of cramping in the cold water.

As the minutes ticked off, Mr. Jenkins, a former highway patrolman, and an unidentified guest at the Paxton House in Highlands tied a rope around the bumper to pull it out. The rope broke.

A winch on the town-owned Jeep and a steel cable finally pulled the submerged automobile partially out of the water so the three could be removed. The mystery man managed to open a door and he and Mr. Jenkins removed Mrs. Harmon and then Mr. Harmon. Henry

'Dead Man' Gets A Lift

A "dead man" was reported lying at the side of US 23-441 (south) in the Norton stretch Friday morning.

Upon investigation, Chief Deputy Newell Pendergrass found "the body", as reported, crumpled on the shoulder of the highway. But a vigorous shaking of "the body" aroused an Indian who identified himself as John A. Wampler, 40, of Greeneville, Tenn. He told the officer he had walked from Clayton, Ga., and had a "spell" some time during the early morning.

The "dead man" chatted breezily with the officer and a reporter on the return trip to Franklin.

"You know", Deputy Pendergrass commented after letting the Indian out on NC 28, "I'll bet he was just waiting for some one to give him a ride."

Centennial King-Queen Contest On

As the latest feature of the coming Franklin Centennial, a county-wide "King and Queen of Centennial" contest will officially open May 1.

All community groups and organizations are invited to nominate a couple to compete in the penny-a-vote contest.

In brief, the contest rules are:
Men nominated must be at least 55 years "young" and the women 50 years. They need not be man and wife, but each organization is requested to nominate a man and a woman to compete as



HUNDREDS of Maconians and visitors marked Easter, 1955, at four sunrise services over the county — atop mile-high Wayah Bald, spectacular Whiteside Mountain, "Raven's Rock", and at the Iotla Baptist Church. Shown is a group of young people huddled under blankets as the crisp mountain air on Wayah made way for the sunrise.

HIGHWAY VS. WEATHER

State Engineer Says Good Weather Needed To Speed Wayah Road

All that's needed now to "get things rolling" on the construction of the Wayah Road is good weather, Resident Highway Engineer J. S. Caldwell, of Murphy, said in a telephone interview Tuesday night.

With "the right kind of breaks", the engineer said all grading should be completed and base stone in place by October. If this schedule is met, paving of the nearly 12-mile project from Cold Springs on the Franklin end to Feisty Branch in the Nantahala community should follow in the spring, he added.

But, since the project got under way last October, construction has been sandwiched between sieges of winter weather. The contractor, Taylor Construction Company, has only been charged with 90 full working days, Mr. Caldwell said.

Most of the grading is under way on the Nantahala end. Mr. Caldwell estimated that about one-third (80,000 yards) of the dirt moving job has been completed.

He said work on the Franklin end is to begin at an early date.

Meanwhile, workmen have installed about 60 per cent of the culverts and drain pipe on the job. On the average, the project lists about one culvert or pipe every 400 feet, the engineer said. While many of them will divert small mountain streams, most are being installed to handle surface run-off during rain, he explained.

P. T. A. Members Will See Movie, Hear Safety Talk

Members planning to attend Monday night's meeting of the Franklin P. T. A. will see a film on tuberculosis and hear a public safety talk.

Mrs. Frank Shope, public health nurse, will show the film, "W. W. (Bill) Sloan is to give the safety talk under the sponsorship of the local chapter of the American Red Cross.

The meeting is set for 7:30 in the school cafeteria.

Deadline For Filing Is Saturday

Political activity for the non-partisan biennial elections May 3 in Franklin and Highlands is picking up as the Saturday deadline for filing nears.

Three more incumbent aldermen tossed their hats into the circle in Franklin Tuesday night. They are J. C. Jacobs, Oscar Ledford, and Frank Martin, all seeking their third two-year term. W. K. (Ken) Hooker, Van Raalte official, also signed with the three. He has been appointed to serve out the remainder of Alderman Erwin Patton's term. Mr. Patton resigned last week to serve on the county board of education. Alderman A. G. Cagle filed last week and he also is seeking his third term, as one of six on the board.

Mayor W. C. Burrell still is unopposed for his post.

Tate Files
At presstime, only two men had filed for the five commissioner posts in Highlands.

J. Phil Tate filed this week and incumbent Commissioner Carter Talley penciled his name for another term last week.

V. W. McCall, former town clerk and now cashier with the Highlands branch of the Jackson County Bank, is still the only candidate in the race for mayor.

PLANT OPENS TOWN OFFICES

To Work Employment For Burlington Plant Through New Address

C. B. Hussey, employment supervisor, announced this week that Burlington Industries, Inc., has taken office space in the Nantahala Building in Franklin and that all applications and interviews for employment at the hosiery plant are being handled at the new address.

Since the opening of the Burlington training program here February 1, this phase of employment has been handled at the training room in the V. F. W. Building on West Palmer.

The concern's new offices are 210 and 211. The Nantahala Building is at the rear of the courthouse.

Commenting on the progress of the program, Mr. Hussey termed it "very successful". He said 22 women are now in training. Only two are being hired each week.

Employment for men at the new plant, which is scheduled to go into operation in early summer, still is in the indefinite stage, Mr. Hussey explained. He said it probably will be the latter part of May before the employment of men is anticipated. Definite information on this will be released "just as soon as it is available", he declared.

L. B. Orañ, who has been with the Harriman, Tenn., plant, is now on the job as supervisor of the training program.

Slated to arrive here tomorrow (Friday) is Vance Rucker, who will be office manager. He has been connected with the Harriman plant.

In Final Stages
Meanwhile, construction of the three million dollar plant just outside Franklin is moving into the final stages, according to J. P. Whitt, Jr., construction supervisor for Daniels Construction Company.

Although seriously hampered by the weather, Mr. Whitt said "we'll make it" under the April 15 deadline for having the plant under roof. All but the office section was under roof last week.

The supervisor said finishing, as far as his company is concerned, should be completed in three to four weeks.

Installation of air conditioning and other equipment will be handled by other companies, he said.

BAKE SALE FRIDAY

The St. Agnes Episcopal Auxiliary will hold a bake sale Friday at the Children's Shop, beginning at 9 a. m.

NEW SCHOOL BOARD GOES IN THURSDAY

Erwin Patton Gets Chairmanship; Clerk Gives Oath To Men

The new three-man Macon County Board of Education was sworn in last Thursday night in a brief ceremony by Miss Kate McGee, clerk of superior court.

She administered the oath of office to Erwin Patton, O. F. Summer, and C. C. Sutton and the board then went into official session and elected Mr. Patton chairman.

No other action was taken. This new board was appointed by Rep. G. L. Houk to replace the five men nominated in last spring's Democratic primary. The bill was ratified April 4.

Discussing the replacement bill after introducing it in the house March 18, the local representative said "special circumstances" over the school situation here (the "yow-yow . . . that has reacted adversely on the schools in the county, even down to the classroom level.") were behind his decision to name an entirely new board and cut the membership from five to three.

Open Navy Recruiting Unit Here

A U. S. Navy recruiting office opened Tuesday in Franklin to serve the six-county area of Macon, Jackson, Swain, Clay, Cherokee, and Graham.

The office is on the second floor of the post office building.

Chief Gunner's Mate W. F. Horn, a native of St. Louis, Mo., is in charge. He is being assisted by Chief Boatswain's Mate John Prine.

Office hours are set at 8 to 5:30 Monday through Friday and 9 to 12 noon on Saturday.

Both the chiefs plan to move their families here about May 1.

Albert Ramsey Gets Haywood Agent's Post

Albert L. Ramsey, a Macon native, has taken over duties as assistant farm agent in Haywood County.

Since last October, he had been the assistant T. V. A. agent for Madison, Yancey, Mitchell, Avery, and Watauga counties, with headquarters in Burnsville.

Before taking the T. V. A. post, Mr. Ramsey farmed in the Iotla section.

Vehicle Cases Dominate Docket

Prentiss Post Office Is Closing

Governmental economy finally is catching up with the small Prentiss Post Office. It will close April 30.

One of four to be abandoned in an economy move in the past 14 months, the Prentiss office earlier sidestepped a closing order, but saw its star route discontinued. This was a September 1, 1954, order which was rescinded by the U. S. Post Office Department.

But the latest order apparently will stick. Postmaster John Cunningham already has taken a job with Franklin Feed Mill.

Most of the patrons of the postoffice are to be served by Route 2.

This leaves the county with six post offices, four in the southern end. They are Franklin, Highlands, Gneiss, Otto, Aquone, and Scaly.

The three other small offices closed in the last 14 months are Cullasaja, Ellijay, and West's Mill.

In closing the offices, the department has reported mail can be more efficiently handled through rural routes.

Mobile X-Ray Unit Sets Visit Here In May

May 3-11 are the dates set for the visit of a mobile X-ray unit in Macon County, according to Fred Dowdle, chairman of the Macon Tuberculosis Association.

A schedule of stops for the free service is now being worked out and will be announced later, he said.

Mr. Dowdle plans to work transportation arrangements through the community development organizations.

New Scout Troop

A new Boy Scout troop has been organized in Franklin with the Rev. Bryan Hatchett as Scoutmaster and Dr. J. L. Hill as assistant.

The latest addition was formed from two patrols from Franklin, Troop 1, and as yet has not been assigned a troop number.

The Presbyterian Men's organization is the troop sponsor.



Miss Emma Watson, Franklin High junior (left), and Mrs. Frank Martin are shown discussing their trip to New York City for a tour of the United Nations. Miss Watson was awarded the trip for winning a recent essay contest sponsored by the American Freedom's Association. Mrs. Martin was the sponsoring teacher. The two left yesterday (Wednesday) and plan to return Sunday.

Judge Moore To Open Session Here Monday; Civil Docket 'Light'

A break-down of the criminal docket of the April term of Superior Court, which opens here Monday morning at 10, shows motor vehicles law violations hold sway over all other cases.

Of the more than 200 cases listed for trial, more than three-fourths have motor vehicle connections, the majority of these speeding and drunk driving.

Presiding over the term will be Judge Dan K. Moore, resident judge of the 20th Judicial District.

The civil docket, which in terms past has been disposed of between criminal proceedings, rather than going into second week trial, is "light" this term, according to Miss Kate McGee, clerk of court.

Cases listed for trial, through Tuesday noon, included:

Lester Reed, Jr., reckless driving; Reed T. Hill, speeding 70 mph; J. R. Rollins, speeding 60 mph; Jessie Dover Gillespie, speeding 55 mph (truck); Fred S. McNichen, speeding 65 mph, careless and reckless driving; Charlie Rhodes, assault with a deadly weapon; David Kalonaheskie, assault with a deadly weapon; Eddie Cleo Dalton, drunk driving; Claude C. Beeco, drunk driving; Allen Taylor, Jr., speeding 65 mph; John Howard McCoy, operating vehicle on expired registration; Guyther F. Bramlett, Sr., speeding 65 mph; Roy Lee Lewis, no operator's license; Willie Wykle, transporting whiskey; Troy Lee Crisp, aiding and abetting transporting whiskey; Edward Leslie Price, speeding 70 mph, operating motor vehicle on expired license plates; Melba Jane Weiborn, no operator's license; Roy Edward Kinsey, permitting non-licensed person to drive.

Robert Warren Munger, drunk driving; Henry Lee Butler, aiding and abetting drunk driving; Claude Martin, abandonment; Delis Holland, no operator's license; Wayne David Millspass, no operator's license; Leslie Leroy Johnson, drunk driving; James Robert Shirk, speeding 65 mph; Robert Harold Wood, reckless driving, improper operator's license and registration; R. L. Anderson, abandonment; Freeman A. Watts, drunk driving; Donald Billy Owenby, drunk driving; Ray Prince, careless and reckless driving, speeding 80 mph; Leonard C. Swanson, Jr., transporting whiskey, attempted jail break; Mrs. James A. Ordway, abatement of nuisances; Clyde Jerome Simonds, drunk driving (2nd offense); Clinton R. Suttle, non-support; Emma Sue Stangle, no operator's license; Earl Clifford McCoy, aiding and abetting to no operator's license; Dewey Clint Teague, speeding 80 mph, reckless driving; Lawton-James Brown, reckless driving, speeding 75 mph; Jay Bryan Houston, speeding 65 mph, violating restriction; Dav-

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, P. S. weather observer; in Highlands by Tucker N. Hall and W. C. Newton, T. A. observer; and at the Coweeta Hydrological Laboratory:

FRANKLIN		
Temperatures		
High Low Rain		
Wed., Apr. 6	67	47 2.19
Thursday	57	48 .32
Friday	69	26 .
Saturday	71	23 .
Sunday	67	40 .
Monday	74	50 .32
Tuesday	75	39 .

HIGHLANDS		
Temperatures		
High Low Rain		
Wed., Apr. 6	60	46 .84
Thursday	62	40 1.28
Friday	58	27 .
Saturday	62	23 .
Sunday	58	40 .
Monday	64	47 1.90
Tuesday	66	43 .76

COWEETA		
Temperatures		
High Low Rain		
Wed., Apr. 6	67	45 1.37
Thursday	60	50 .
Friday	66	27 .
Saturday	69	29 .
Sunday	65	41 1.24
Monday	72	51 .45
Tuesday	74	40 .70