

# The Franklin Press

and  
The Highlands Maconian

## Dr. Koepp-Baker To Speak Here On Special Education

Dr. Herbert Koepp-Baker, head of the special education department of Western Carolina College, is to be guest speaker at a county-wide teachers' meeting Wednesday at 3:30 p. m. at East Franklin School.

He will speak on special education techniques, a field in which he is well-known throughout the country.

This will serve as the first of a series of lectures to be given hereafter by Dr. Koepp-Baker each Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 9:30, as an off-campus course offered by W. C. C. A survey course, it will deal with the different types of exception children, the needs of each, and the educational problems involved in dealing with them.

Presiding at the teachers' meeting will be Mrs. Dora G. Carpenter, president of the local unit of the N. C. Education Association.

## Youth Stabbed; 2 Free On Bond, Third Sought

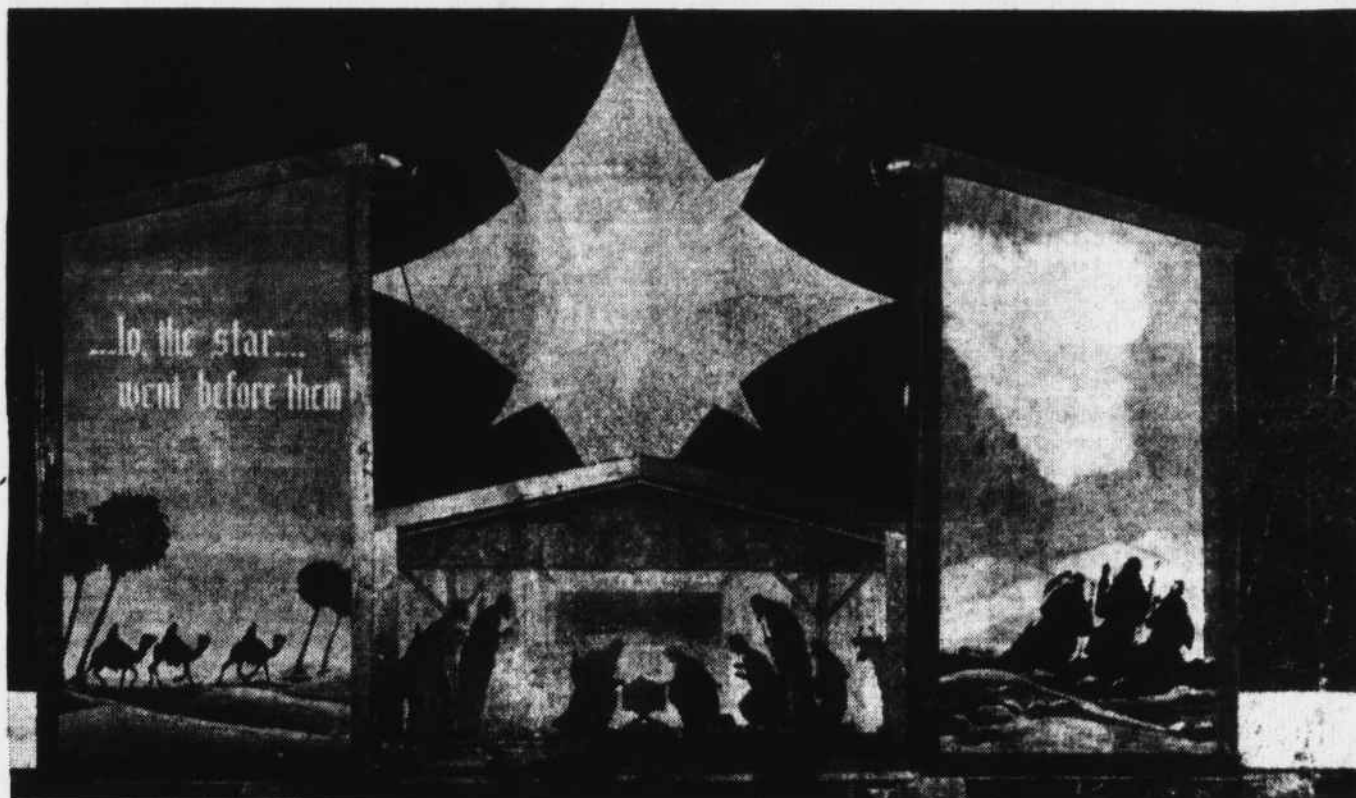
Ernie Sanders, about 18, is recovering in a local hospital from stab wounds received Saturday night in an affray near the Black Mountain church in the South Skeenah section.

Free on \$500 bonds each, on charges of participating in an affray, are Beecher Hodgins, about 20, and Talvern Sanders, about 16, according to the sheriff's department, which investigated the incident.

Sheriff J. Harry Thomas said a warrant is still outstanding against Bryant Hodgins. He had not been located Tuesday afternoon.

The officer said the details surrounding the fight are sketchy.

Taken to Angel Clinic for treatment, the injured youth is reported to have been stabbed in his chest, thigh, and arm.



Otto's Winning Christmas Lighting Display

## Christmas Mail Load Sets All-Time Record At Office

Although the Christmas mail load hit an all-time high at the Franklin Post Office, public cooperation helped employees turn it over without needing extra help.

"There was no last minute rush like last year," Postmaster Zeb Meadows noted Tuesday. "The people seemed to cooperate more by mailing cards and packages early."

While no extra hands were put on during the rush month, the postmaster said the office logged 55 more work hours than last December. This overtime was spread among the regular employees, he explained.

In setting an all-time record, first class mail cancellations (cards and letters) hit 147,800, as compared with 131,200 last year. These figures are for December 1-24.

Incoming mail — letters and parcel post — was considerably heavier this season, Mr. Meadows reported, probably 15-20 per cent higher. It also about

doubled out-going mail at the office.

For the 14-day period preceding Christmas, it is estimated that more than 2,500 pieces of out-going parcel post were handled.

Under the load, rural carriers ran an average of two hours behind their regular delivery times, Mr. Meadows said.

The 19th (Monday) was the peak day at the office, with 21,000 first class cancellations.

## Rotary Club Changes Weekly Meeting Day

The Franklin Rotary Club, which for many years has met on Wednesdays, last week voted to change the day to Thursday.

Starting next week, meetings will be held Thursdays at 6:30 p. m. (instead of 7). The club will continue to meet at the Slagle Memorial Building.

The decision to change the meeting day was reached after considerable discussion.

## Franklin Yule Contest Winners Are Announced

A secret panel of judges found picking winners in the Franklin Garden Club's annual Christmas lighting contest a difficult chore, according to Mrs. E. C. Kingsbery, chairman in charge.

Selected last Thursday night, the top places are:

Public Building — Franklin High School.

Commercial Building — Burlington Industries, Inc.

Outdoor Scene — Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Proffitt.

Home Window — Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Jacobs.

Door Decorations — Mr. and Mrs. Harve L. Bryant.

Wrought iron and brass items were given as prizes by the club.

Honorable mentions went to Mr. and Mrs. James Hauser and Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Wilhide, for outdoor scenes, to Dr. and Mrs. G. R. McSween, for home window, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Ward Long, for door decorations.

## Otto Community Winner Of County Lighting Contest

Otto community's nativity scene took first place and \$30 in the annual Christmas lighting contest sponsored by the Nantahala Power and Light Company.

Runnersup, and the prize money they received, were Cowee, 2nd, \$25; Cullasaja, third, \$20; Higdonville, 4th, \$15; and Iotia, 5th, \$10.

Otto's winning scene was a colorful three-section display done in relief. Small figures in the center panel were sawed to scale and hand-painted. The display was set up on the grounds at the Coweeta Baptist Church.

Other organized communities participating included Cartoogechaye, Bethel, Carson, Clark's Chapel, Holly Springs, Patton, and Upper Cartoogechaye.

Cullasaja and Cowee had nativity scenes. Higdonville's featured angels singing, and Iotia's display was of shepherds and the Star of Bethlehem.

## License Tags To Go On Sale Next Tuesday

North Carolina's '56 license tags go on sale in Franklin Tuesday morning.

Deadline for purchasing a license—one to a car this year—is February 15.

Issuing his annual plea to motorists to "buy early and avoid that last-minute rush," Verlon Swafford, manager of the Carolina Motor Club office, yesterday said, by order of the Department of Motor Vehicles, that no special license number can be reserved by motorists.

The number series for the local office will be MC-9201 through MC-9999 and MD-1 through MD-2900.

Office hours will be 9 a. m. to 4 p. m.

The C.M.C. office is in the rear of the Western Auto Associate Store on Main Street.

## Seal Sale \$75 Away From Goal

Macon is short \$75 of reaching its \$600 goal in the annual Christmas seal sale staged by the Macon Tuberculosis Association.

The sale chairman, Fred Dowdle, reported Tuesday afternoon that \$525 was on hand.

Nine hundred letters, each containing 100 seals, were mailed to local citizens with a request for \$1 contributions.

## NOMINEES ARE ASKED

### 'Young Man' Award To Be Presented Here In February

Nominations for "Macon County's Young Man of the Year" are arriving daily and are being studied by a secret selection committee, according to C. Jack Ragan, chairman of the Jaycee-sponsored event.

Any young man not over the age of 36 by December 31 is eligible to be nominated for the annual award, which honors the recipient for his contributions to his community.

Announcement of the '54 winner will feature a special banquet tentatively scheduled for February 3. He will be presented a "Distinguished Service Award" key.

Mr. Ragan emphasized that membership in the Jaycees is not necessary for a young man to be nominated. Organizations and communities submitting nominees for the award should also include a list of the individual's accomplishments during the year.

The secret selection committee is composed of non-Jaycees.

## Basketball In Gymnasium This Season Is Unlikely

At present, it appears unlikely that basketball will be played in Franklin High's \$157,000 gymnasium this season.

The building is still in various stages of construction.

E. J. Whitmire, general manager of Macon Construction Company, this week said the building probably will not be ready for use before late February or March.

In the fall, school officials optimistically scheduled games for the gymnasium beginning January 10 and had hoped to hold the Smoky Mountain Conference playoffs here.

Games for the remainder of the year will be rescheduled when school reopens next week. They probably will be held on the same dates, but will be

played in the gymnasiums of opponents.

### Non-Conference Tilts

Meanwhile, Franklin boys have scheduled a non-conference tilt with Swain High in Bryson City tomorrow (Friday) night. A preliminary event between the freshman boys' teams of the two schools is set for 7 o'clock and the varsities will meet later in the evening. The girls will not play.

Tuesday, another non-conference game is set for the boys and girls at Clyde A. Erwin High School in Buncombe County, where Ralph L. Smith, former F. H. S. principal, is principal. The girls will start off this meeting at 7:30.

The next conference game is January 10 with Sylva.

## CHRISTMAS '55 LEAVES MEMORIES

### Maconians Celebrate Yule With Variety Of Special Events

Christmas 1955 — now committed to history — willed many memories to Maconians.

As is traditional here, citizens acknowledged the deep religious significance of the holiday with a wide range of activities in schools, churches, and homes; from school plays to special cantatas and religious events.

For some the Christmas week-end sounded a tragic note, but for the majority it was the biggest and best yet.

### Business Tops

Business-wise, the Christmas season topped all others in total sales, with at least one Franklin store reporting December receipts 80 per cent over last year. Although this startling figure was not general among merchants, most reported receipts up between 10 and 12 per cent for the entire month.

### One Accident

Safety-wise, motorists in the county made it through the long week-end without a scratch. Only one minor accident, involving one vehicle, was reported.

To point up the state's all-out safety campaign, patrolmen set up wrecked car displays along the highways and at intersections.

### Deaths In Family

Two deaths within two days turned the holidays into days of sorrow for a Cabe family here. Thomas Jasper Cabe, 83, of the Tessenta section, died Friday at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Tom Hopkins, on Franklin, Route 2. On Christmas day, his sister, Mary Ella Cabe, 75, became Swain County's ninth highway fatality when she died in a hospital of injuries received when struck by an automobile near Cherokee.

### Destroys Home

Christmas 1955 was dimmed, also, for Mr. and Mrs. Kay Montague, operators of the "Dixie Grill" in Franklin. Friday night, while they were away on a holiday trip down east, fire destroyed their home on US 23-441 (east).

### Mail Load Highest

A flood of Christmas mail and packages through the Franklin Post Office was a record breaker and will give the office employees something to talk about in the coming months. Despite the highest load in history, however, the office managed to keep abreast without adding extra help.

### Spring Weather

On a cheerier note, spring-like weather prevailed over the week-end. Late shoppers on SEE NO. 7 PAGE 12

## Burley Tobacco Voting Today

A referendum today (Thursday) will voice burley tobacco growers' approval or disapproval of quotas during 1956-57 at a guaranteed rate of 90 per cent parity.

With the exception of those in the Nantahala townships, all Macon burley growers will cast ballots at the Agricultural Building in Franklin. Nantahala growers are voting at Warren Owenby's Store.

Polls will open at 9 a. m. and close at 6 p. m.

## The Weather

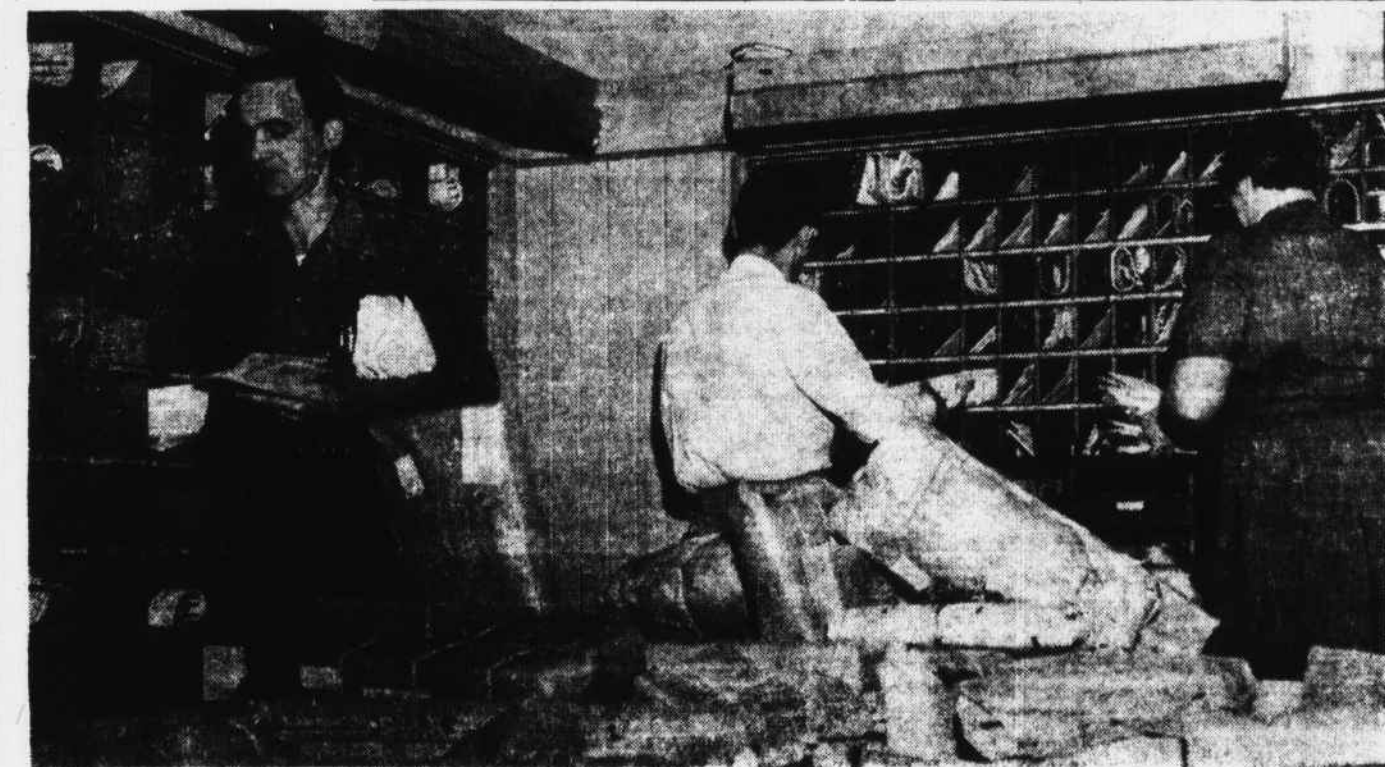
The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, U. S. weather observer; in Highlands by Futor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, T.Y.A. observer; and at the Coweeta Hydrologic

### FRANKLIN

Temperatures		High	Low	Rain
Wed., Dec. 21	43	17	....	
Thursday	54	18	....	
Friday	60	20	....	
Saturday	69	42	....	
Sunday	74	40	....	
Monday	63	32	....	
Tuesday	59	39	....	

### COWEETA

Temperatures		High	Low	Rain
Wed., Dec. 21	42	18	....	
Thursday	50	20	....	
Friday	61	22	trace	
Saturday	69	41	trace	
Sunday	73	40	....	
Monday	56	30	....	
Tuesday	54	40	....	



FLANKED BY LOADED parcel post carts, three employees of the Franklin Post Office (L to R) T. L. Jamison, Woodrow Gibson, and Mrs. Catherine Deal, are shown tackling the record-breaking flood of mail produced by Christmas 1955. Employees managed to keep pace with the flow without needing extra help, but logged 55 more work hours during December than last year.

## 1955 Chronology Offers Proof That Plenty Of Things DO Happen In Macon County

Editor's Note: Might as well discard, for good, that hacknied old phrase, "Nothing ever happens here". And the reasoning is sound. Macon County is probably, for its size, one of the most active spots on the face of the earth. The following chronology should prove this contention, at least for 1955. Naturally, all events could not be covered in this resume' of the year's passage, and we might have overlooked some important ones. Be that as it may — here 'tis!

JANUARY—Macon Representative G. L. Houk reported to Raleigh and took his seat with the General Assembly. Rose Marie Moss, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Moss, of Highlands, Buck Creek Route, was Macon's first baby of 1955, born on the

rest of the country... a \$50,000 check from the state treasurer arrived here for the construction of Franklin's new town hall... a job training program for the Burlington Industries, Inc. plant here was announced... The Franklin Press won first place among weekly newspapers in the state for its editorial page... the first meeting to organize a Centennial committee in Franklin was held.

FEBRUARY—Edwin T. Williams, Franklin High teacher, was honored as "Macon County's Young Man of the Year" by the

Franklin Jaycees... fire destroyed the casino at the Highlands Country Club... W. W. Reeves was reelected president of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce... Fred Deal and Johnny Kinsland, Macon farmers, attended a two-week short course in modern farming at N. C. State College under the sponsorship of the N. C. Bankers Association... W. N. Cook, 76-year-old retired Baptist pastor, was honored for his service at a special "W. N. Cook Day" at the First Baptist Church... A. B. Slagle received a 50-year veteran's emblem for service in

the Junaluske Lodge, No. 145, AF and AM, from the Rev. Robert L. Pugh, most worshipful grand master of the order... Cullasaja School, with a 96, got the highest rating of any food handling establishment in the county... bids for Franklin's new town hall were opened and proved to be too high for the money on hand, but town officials decided to rough-in features rather than cut specifications... "Hearts of Stone," hit song of the nation, had a Macon connection in its author, Eddie Ray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Ray, well-known Frank-

lin Negroes... Franklin's girl basketballers won the division crown for the third straight year but lost in the conference tournament to a sextet from Andrews... the Rev. John J. Buell resigned as pastor of the Highlands Baptist Church to accept the pastorate of the First Baptist Church in Jonesboro, Ga.

MARCH—A total of \$850,000 was made available for construction of US 23-441 from Franklin to the Georgia state line... Mrs. Catherine Henry was elected matron and Prelo Dryman, worthy