

—Press Staff Photo

THERE WON'T be any sneakers romping over this floor for some time. Filled in Franklin High's new gymnasium, it will not be installed until the heating work has been completed by a sub-contractor. Games scheduled for the gymnasium are now being changed.

Franklin High's Basketball Games Being Changed

With construction of Franklin High's new gymnasium far from complete basketball games slated to be played in the building are now being rescheduled.

Coach Howard Barnwell said Tuesday that most of the games will be reshuffled. A revised schedule should be ready by next week, he added.

When planning the cage schedule last fall, officials hoped the \$157,000 gymnasium would be completed by the first of the year and, accordingly all games were

Franklin will play Tuesday evening in Sylva. (Wednesday) in an off-campus and the varsity games will follow.

set here. However, plumbing and heating work has slowed construction. The general contractor, Macon Construction Company, has previously said it does not want to install the finished flooring in the building until the heat has been on for several days. This will reduce buckling of the floor.

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Special Education Program Here Attracts 160 Pupils

LECTURES HERE

A well-known authority in the field of special education, Dr. Herbert Koopp-Baker, gave his first lecture here yesterday (Wednesday) in an off-campus course offered by Western Carolina College.

He addressed a county-wide teachers' meeting at East Franklin School.

On each Wednesday for the next quarter, Dr. Koopp-Baker will teach his course here from 6:30 to 9:30 p. m.

Parents interested in this field are invited to take the course and may obtain additional information at the school superintendent's office.

4 Get Band Clinic Seats

Four members of the Macon County Band have been selected to participate in the annual area high school band clinic January 27-28 at Western Carolina College, according to the director, T. A. Orr.

Tony Orr will play in the clinic band, while Dwain Horsley, Paullette Ward, and Katrina Elmore have chairs in the workshop band.

Routine Matters Talked By Board

Routine matters were discussed by the Franklin Board of Aldermen at a brief session Tuesday night. No actions were taken officially.

At a call meeting on December 30, the board outlined several suggestions to improve police functions, including a schedule for directing traffic morning and afternoon at the Franklin and East Franklin schools.

STUDY COURSE SLATED

A study course entitled "Indian American" will begin Sunday evening at 7:30 at the First Methodist Church, it has been announced.

Local Men Listed In New Group

Five Macon County men are listed among incorporators of the new Better Business Development Corporation of North Carolina, an organization being pushed by Gov. Luther H. Hodges to develop small industry in the state.

They are John M. Archer, Jr., H. L. Bryant, Mayor W. C. Burrell, Frank B. Duncan, and C. Banks Finger.

With an authorized capitalization of one million dollars, the corporation will supply "venture capital" for business and industry in the state. This authorized figure is expected to be raised by the 1st of January, following a drive by the North Carolina Junior Chamber of Commerce, which is assisting Gov. Hodges in the project.

During the preliminary planning, Mr. Finger served as western representative of the N. C. J. C. C. committee working with the governor's group.

The Jaycees will begin their drive for stock subscribers on January 15 on a state-wide basis, according to Mr. Finger.

Whitmore Buys Moore's Interest In Company

E. J. Whitmore has purchased Fred A. Moore's interest in Macon Construction Company and is now sole owner.

Organized in the late 40's, the company started as a rock crushing outfit and later expanded operations to include highway construction and buildings.

Burley Growers Okay New Quotas

Macon burley growers cast their lots with the majority in Western North Carolina last Thursday in voting to continue price supports.

There was no opposition to the proposal here. The 104 burley growers casting ballots all voted in favor.

In approving the quotas, growers also accepted a 15 per cent cut in acreage allotment for the year. However, crops will be available for government price supports at 90 per cent of parity.

Bad weather probably cut the Macon vote slightly, according to officials overseeing the referendum. County-wide, a total of 192 burley growers were eligible to vote.

Two polling places were maintained, one in Franklin at the Agricultural building, the other at Nantahala at Warren Owenby's Store. The county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee—Carl Morgan, Bill Higdon, and Walter Taylor—had charge in Franklin, while the township A. S. C. committee, composed of Turner May, E. B. May, and G. W. Owenby, handled arrangements at Nantahala.

Of a total W. N. C. vote of 10,168, only 450 opposed the issue.

BUSINESS WAS GOOD LAST YEAR

Bank Deposits And Savings Top Prior Year, Cashier Says

Agricultural Macon County found a good business year in 1955, despite the decline in farm prices.

Spending was vigorous, and in some cases, as during Christmas, record-breaking. Bank deposits topped the '54 figure and savings accounts jumped more than \$90,000.

Here's the financial picture, in brief:

Local businessmen report "good" increases in sales during '55 ranging from a small percentage to more than 50 per cent for one. The average, figured by a cross-section survey, is about 10 per cent.

Deposits at the Bank of Franklin at the year's end were more than \$53,000 over the prior—from \$2,110,189 to \$2,164,539.72.

Cashier H. W. Cabe described the turn over in deposits during '55 as "much heavier" than in '54. During the peak in the summer, deposits at one time went over \$2,300,000, he said.

Savings at the bank jumped from \$362,643 in '54 to \$453,000; an increase of better than \$90,000.

As a further index to "nest-egging" by Maconians the county topped its savings bonds quota of \$233,200 by eight per cent in October. Figures for bond sales for the remaining two months of the year have not been made available.

BOARD WILL SET MEETS

To Discuss Needs Of Schools Before Allocating Money

Supt. Holland McSwain anticipates a call meeting of the board of education next week to start planning how to split Macon's \$152,027.87 allocation for school expansion.

The board did not hold its regular meeting Monday because of the holiday.

Supt. McSwain said the board first will set up a schedule of meetings in school districts to discuss the needs in each.

No decision as to how to dispose of the allocation will be made until the meetings have been held, he emphasized.

The superintendent previously has listed lunchrooms at Cowee and Otto and vocational shops at Highlands and Nantahala as projects under consideration.

Men Sidestep '55 Greetings For Induction

By using enlistment channels, most of Macon County's young men going into uniform during 1955 sidestepped greetings from the local selective service board.

For the entire year, only 15 men were actually inducted into the army by the board, according to Mrs. Gilmer A. Jones, secretary.

On the other hand, 192 men enlisted in the various branches of service.

Hunting Days Are Dwindling

Paging all hunters! Better get in your hunting licks this month, because, in case you've forgotten, most game in this section of the state will be wrapped in legal safety on February 1.

The 31st is the deadline for hunting rabbit, quail, turkey, and non-native pheasant.

Ruffed grouse (native pheasant) may be hunted through February 15.

SING AT LOUISA

Louisa Chapel, three miles west of Franklin on US 64, will be the scene of the second Sunday sing, according to Tom Henson, secretary of the southern sing division. The sing will open at 1:45 p. m.



—Press Staff Photo

NORTH CAROLINA'S new '56 license plates went on sale here Tuesday morning at the Carolina Motor Club office in the Western Auto Associate Store. Mrs. Kate Jacobs (left) is shown waiting on two customers; one holding a new tag. Sales at the office topped 200 and were higher than usual for an opening day, it is reported.

DIMES DRIVE UNDER WAY

Macon Quota \$2,800; Carpenter and Morris Are Co-Chairmen Here

Macon's annual "March of Dimes" polio campaign is being kicked off this week under the co-chairmanship of Dean Carpenter and Hewin Morris, both of Franklin.

The quota is \$2,800. Because of the remarkable strides made during '55 in fighting the crippling disease, the co-chairman termed it "doubly important" that the county top its goal this year.

They plan to push the campaign through the schools, community organizations, and with special collectors in stores county-wide.

A "Mothers' March on Polio" is now being planned for this month by the Franklin Junior Woman's Club. The club president Miss Lillian Jones, promised more information on this next week.

BALDWIN ON LEAVE

Pfc. Charles D. Baldwin stationed at Camp Le Jeune, is spending a 12-day leave here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Baldwin.

LIMELIGHT OUT —

Beauty Queen Prefers Home

Being a housewife is a lot more fun than basking in the limelight of a beauty queen.

So reports the statuesque Mrs. Zula Kate Smith Welch, the "Miss North Carolina of the Rhododendron Festival of 1952."

Tall, blonde, and soft-spoken the former beauty queen qualifies quite well in the housewife department as the wife of Harold (Hal) Welch, who met her while stationed with the highway patrol in her hometown of Burnsville.

During the day, Mrs. Welch enhances the interior beauty of the new Burlington Industries plant and in the evening steps into the role of housewife in their apartment on Bidwell Street.

'55 Building Boom In Town Probably Tops In History

Seven-Pounder Named Watts Is First Baby

A seven-pound boy named Bobby Leon Watts is Macon's first baby of 1955.

Born on the 1st shortly after the old year '55 retreated (2:30 a. m.), Bobby is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Riley Watts, of Franklin, Route 5. Dr. E. W. Fisher attended at the home delivery.

Later in the day (11:25 a. m.) Dr. Fisher delivered another newcomer at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arvil Shelton, of Franklin, Route 3. Also a boy, his name is David Arvil and he weighed in at six and a half pounds.

NEW WATER LINE

A new water line is being installed from Main Street down Patton to the Franklin Laundry and Dry Cleaners. Town officials hope this will remedy a "dingy water" complaint from the laundry, which has been served by a Palmer Street main.

What is believed to be the biggest building boom in Franklin's history was fired by 1955.

Estimated cost of construction of eight business buildings, either started or finished during the year, hit a conservative \$238,000, while institutional building chalked up an addition \$723,000.

New home construction kept pace with the trend, but figures on this type were not available. However, it is believed to have topped \$175,000.

The biggest single job pushed during the year was Franklin High's \$157,000 gymnasium to replace one that burned. Still under construction, it is expected to be ready for use by spring.

(Not counted in the above figure, but spent during the year, was \$164,128.97 for 18 classroom additions at county schools.)

Other institutional projects were a Masonic Hall, a town hall, and a health center.

Here's a rundown of construction started during '55; some jobs were finished others are still under way.

A new grocery store is being built at the corner of Palmer and Phillips Street by Glenn Ray. It is one-story with a full basement. Mr. Ray estimates construction costs at \$15,000.

A shopping center was constructed by W. H. Mashburn at a cost of approximately \$25,000. The one-story building, situated at the intersection of US 23-441 and US 64 in East Franklin, has three store units—a restaurant, operated by A. G. Cagle; a grocery store, managed by Pat Cagle and owned by Baldwin's; and a jewelry store, operated by Mr. Mashburn.

On the west side of the Little Tennessee, Sam Gibson and Hall Callahan constructed a modern one-story restaurant building for Mr. and Mrs. Kay Montague at a cost of about \$12,000.

With the assistance of the SEE NO. 3, PAGE 10

Meeting Of Civil Air Patrol Tonight

Capt. A. C. Tysinger has called a meeting of the Franklin Civil Air Patrol squadron for tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 at the Agricultural Building.

HAD A HOT TIME

Broomsedge and brush fires kept the Franklin Volunteer Fire Department on the move this week. Calls included: Wednesday December 28, 4:40 p. m., burning field near Jack Cruse home just off US 23-441 (south); Tuesday, 12:30 p. m., broomsedge blaze on Baird Cove Road; Tuesday, 3:45 p. m., field blaze in the Blossomtown stretch on US 23-441 (south).

The Weather

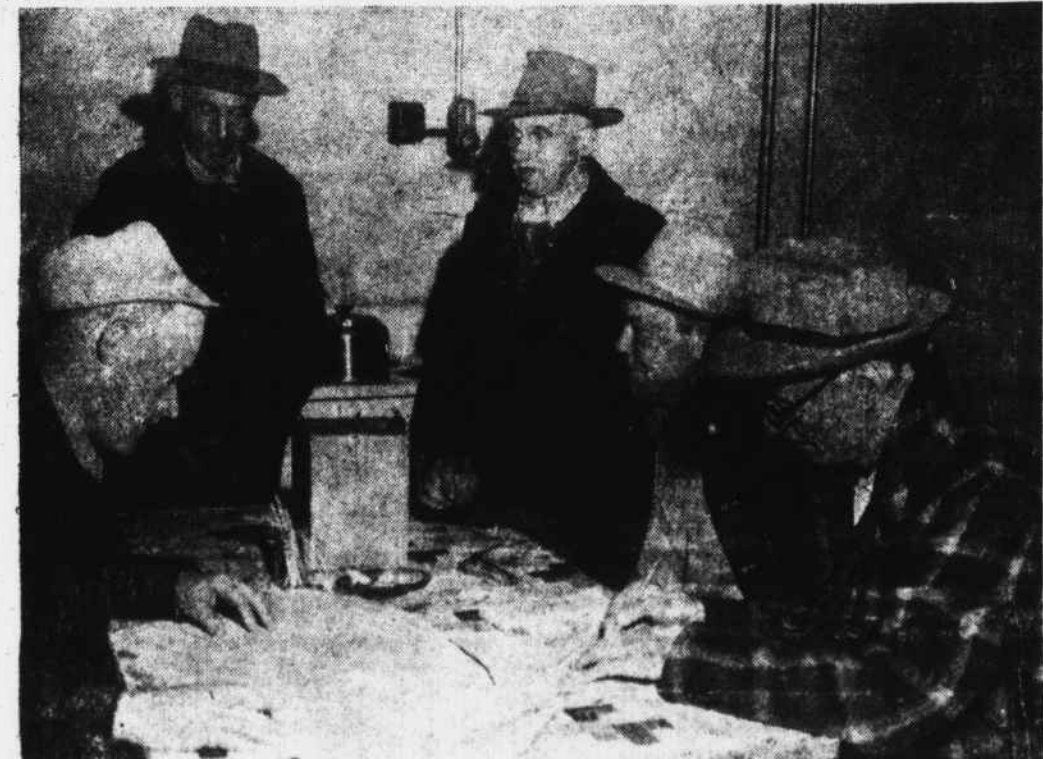
FRANKLIN			
Temperatures			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Dec. 28	51	16	
Thursday	42	31	.17
Friday	45	30	.04
Saturday	43	10	
Sunday	54	11	
Monday	56	14	
Tuesday	60	27	

COWEETA			
Temperatures			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Dec. 28	50	19	trace
Thursday	44	30	.18
Friday	46	34	trace
Saturday	43	11	
Sunday	53	13	
Monday	47	17	
Tuesday	59	19	



—Staff Photo by J. P. Brady

Mrs. Welch — Housewife Beauty



—Press Staff Photo

Officials Help With Burley Balloting Here