



RURAL ROUTE mail carriers picked up 255 new boxes in '55, largely because of mail box projects in organized communities. Bruce Crawford, carrier on Route 1, is shown sorting mail for his run. His route got 32 boxes in the increase.

55 Receipts At Franklin Post Office Set New High

Receipts at the Franklin Post Office reached a new high of \$37,421.01 in 1955, according to Postmaster Zeb Meadows.

This was an increase of \$2,666.80 over '54, when the figure was \$34,754.21.

Mail boxes on the rural routes jumped to 1,840 during the year—255 more than in '54. The postmaster said the influence of community development is responsible for most of the increase.

Rural Route 2 absorbed the largest number of new boxes, 130, for a total of 430. The other routes increased as follows: Route 1, from 308 to 340; Route 3, 350 to 376; Route 4, 312 to 380; and Route 5, no increase from 315.

Postmaster Meadows said the fourth quarter of '55 (October, November, December) showed the largest increase in receipts because of Christmas. This period's receipts came to \$12,354.83, an increase of \$1,022.03 over the '54 fourth quarter's \$11,332.80—

almost half the 1955 total increase of \$2,666.80.

A comparison of figures for the third quarters of '54 and '55 shows receipts were only slightly higher during quarters other than the fourth. The '55 quarter gained only \$21.03 over the period year.

ROTARIANS DISCUSS — What Community Needs

What are the chief needs of this community?

These answers to the question came out of an unplanned round table discussion at last Thursday evening's meeting of the Franklin Rotary Club:

More recreational facilities and events, especially for the young people.

Industry that would provide more jobs, especially for men.

Steps to avoid having US 23-441 "closed for the next two years" while it is being rebuilt, between here and the Georgia line.

Some method of creating closer cooperation between Macon County's two towns, Franklin and Highlands.

LOCAL MAN WILL BUILD BELK'S STORE

Burrell Gives Plans For Erecting Building On Used Car Lot Here

W. C. Burrell this week announced plans for erecting a building for Belk's Department Store in Franklin.

"As soon as weather permits", Mr. Burrell said construction of the 50 by 160 foot one-story building will begin on his used car lot between Macon County Supply Company and Burrell Motor Company, Inc.

He estimates the cost of construction at \$50,000.

The building will be of concrete block and steel construction, with brick veneer. It will have a full basement.

15-Year Lease

In acknowledging that his company and Mr. Burrell has "struck a bargain", Belk's Manager, T. H. Callahan, said Monday a 15-year lease will be signed.

He said the plans for the new building more than double present floor space at Belk's which now leases a Main Street building from Joe Ashear.

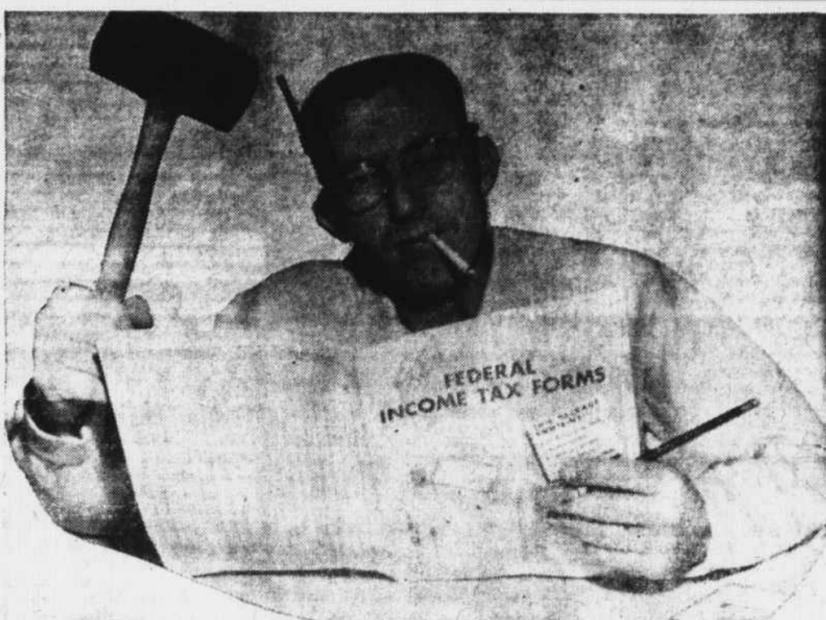
Present floor space is 7,000 square feet. In the new building it will be 16,000.

Mr. Callahan said the building front will be of glass and aluminum.

Belk's present lease with Mr. Ashear is until 1958, the manager said. The store has been in its present location since opening in 1945.

FRIDAY FIRES

Franklin's fire truck rolled out on alarms twice Friday. At 7:45 a. m. firemen extinguished a minor blaze at the Hays Block Plant on the river, and at 3:30 p. m. fought a brush fire at Lawrence Myers' on Bonny Crest.



HOLD ON THERE! Don't let those income tax forms goad you into the pictured situation of J. L. West, Jr., Franklin businessman. Why beat your brains out? From now until April 16, each Monday the Internal Revenue Service office in the post office building will have representatives ready to assist taxpayers with their problems. (Soon after the picture was taken, Mr. West caught the hint, put down his mallet, and dumped his problems into the capable hands of the revenue men).

Forget Those Gadgets — '55 Weather Was Average

Regardless of what your assortment of weather gadgets (including trick knees, rheumatic limbs, and dandruff) 1955's atmospheric behavior only paraded the course.

E. A. Johnson, forester in charge of Coweeta Hydrologic Laboratory, Monday lauded

DECEMBER DATA

You were 0.10 degree colder in December, 1955, than you were for the same month in '54.

The average mean temperature (Coweeta reading) for 1955's December was 37.15, as compared with 1954's 37.25.

Accordingly, December, 1955, offered more extended cold spells—but despite this 1954's December had lower temperatures (although, statistically, 1955 was colder—pardon us while we throw ourselves into the Little Tennessee).

through some records, did some rapid calculations on the adding machine, and announced: "It was about average."

There were a few instances, however, when it was in the rough; instances like:

FINGER TO PUSH STOCK

Has Charge Of Area Sales For Governor's And Jaycee Program

A Franklin attorney, C. Banks Finger, has charge of stock sales in the western district for Gov. Hodges' brainchild, the Better Business Development Corporation.

A concerted drive by the North Carolina Junior Chamber of Commerce is expected to move \$100,000 in stock (\$10 per share) by the first of February. This organization has been assisting the governor with his program to provide "venture capital" for business and industry in the state.

President of the Franklin Junior Chamber of Commerce and a former state vice-president, Mr. Finger yesterday (Wednesday) said he anticipates moving the stock through personal contact and possibly through short talks at civic clubs over the area.

Because of the high demand for stock in the corporation, Mr. Finger said the N.C.J.C.C. will not extend its quota of \$100,000 beyond the February 1 deadline.

More than \$900,000 in stock already has been sold through other channels by the governor's committee.

Since Gov. Hodges and the N.C.J.C.C. joined forces last year in a move to improve the state's per capita income standing of 43rd in the nation, Mr. Finger has been serving as the western area's representative to the Jaycees committee.

A.S.C. Committee Has \$42,697 For Work In County

Macon County has been allocated \$42,697 to assist farmers in carrying out conservation practices under the 56 Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Program, according to Carl Morgan, county A. S. C. chairman.

January 15-31 has been set as the first application period for funds, he said. However, farmers who fail to sign during this period at the A. S. C. office will still be able to request assistance during the year, although requests will be filled according to available funds.

Mr. Morgan said the initial period is to enable the county committee to budget the allocation and get some idea of the current conservation needs in the county.

UNION MEETING SET

A meeting of the Union P. T. A. is scheduled tonight (Thursday) at 7:30 p. m. at the school, it has been announced.

WHEN IT'S COLD — Kovner Heads For Highlands

When the temperature drops and most folks reach for their most controls and overcoats, Jacob L. Kovner performs an incongruous maneuver.

He reaches for his ice skates—an action that is understandable since he declares his mother handed him an ice "hockey stick and a pair of skates the day I was born"—and heads for nearby Highlands and its many frozen lakes.

Once there, to the delight of other skaters and spectators, those pent-up emotions that formed during the warm Southern months

find expression in Mr. Kovner's flashing skates as he executes an amazing series of ice-capades calculated to twist an ordinary skater into the shape of a pretzel.

And it brings back a lot of memories for the short and stocky skater, whose 42 years are ill-fitting on his vigor—childhood memories of his first double-runner skates as he and his friends tried their skating wings on a frozen pond near his home in Brockton, Mass., thoughts of rough-and-tumble varsity hockey at Yale University ('34), and posting

SEE NO. 4, PAGE 5



Kovner Sharpens Skates

HIGHWAY CONTRACTS AWARDED

Engineer Said Detour For Project Still Has Not Been Decided Upon

Contracts for construction of the new \$675,897.80 link of US 23-441 south from Franklin to the Georgia state line were awarded this week, according to the resident highway engineer, S. T. Ustry.

Tuesday afternoon the engineer had not received word from the contractor as to when construction will get under way.

In order to clear up a rumor that the highway will remain open during construction, Mr. Ustry repeated a previous announcement that it will be closed to through traffic under a special provision in the contract.

Local motorists—those living along the new construction—will, of course, be allowed to come and go, he added.

A detour around the new project still has not been settled, the engineer said.

Bids for the project were opened by the State Highway Commission in late November. Since then they have been clearing the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads, which is helping finance the job.

Low bidders for the job are W. E. Graham and Sons, of Cleveland, grading and paving, \$567,893.70; Structures, Inc., structures, \$140,099.30; Bower and Hurley, of Jefferson, moving buildings, \$27,935.

A relocation project of 12.46 miles, it will entail the moving of approximately 800,000 yards of dirt, Mr. Ustry has reported. Ten structures—a bridge and nine culverts—will be built. The surface will be 22 feet.

It has previously been estimated by highway officials that the project will take about two years to complete.

Grading Starts For Library

A bulldozer broke ground Tuesday afternoon on the site of the proposed new county library on Phillips Street.

The two-story building will go up on the county-owned lot between the new Tippet Building and the county jail.

A fund raising campaign was kicked off in August to raise building funds several months after the library moved into temporary quarters near Kelly's Inn from the old Masonic Hall, which was razed to make way for a new building.

A progress report on the campaign was not available this week because Miss Lassie Kelly, chairman of the library committee, is out of town. At the time the drive opened, Miss Kelly hoped to raise \$10,000 in donations to be used with \$3,000 already on hand.

Plans for the new library were drawn by H. H. Plemmons. It is to be 40 by 45 feet, of steel and concrete block construction, with a crab orchard stone front.

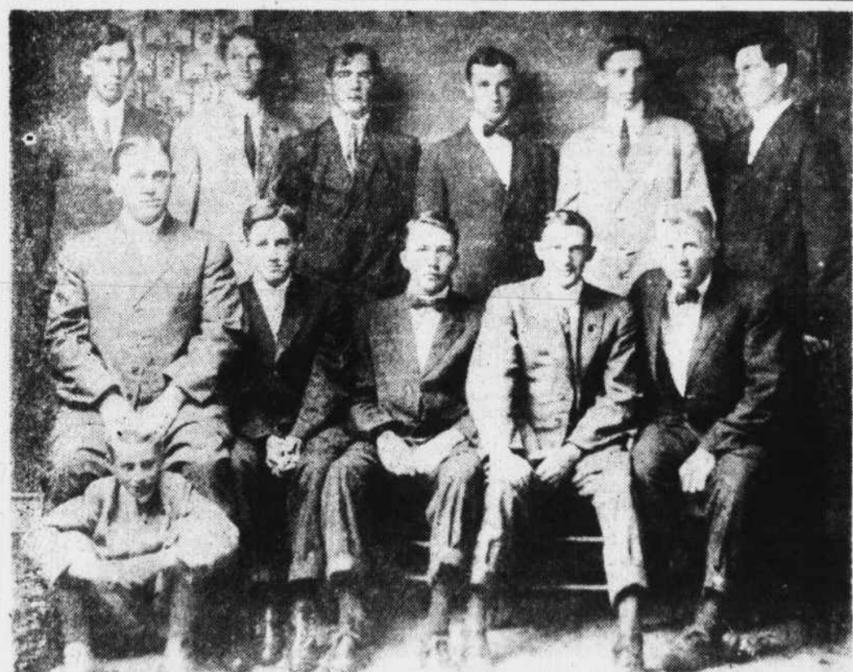
Lee Tippet is the builder. Under an agreement with the committee he is sharing the north wall of his new building with the library, in exchange for a strip of land six inches wide and 45 feet deep.

Donations to the library fund may be sent to the treasurer, H. W. Cabe, in Franklin.

The Weather

FRANKLIN			
Temperatures			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Jan. 4	45	22	.....
Thursday	64	12	.....
Friday	47	16	.....
Saturday	44	29	.....
Sunday	47	18	.....
Monday	43	08	.....
Tuesday	46	22	.....
COWEETA			
Temperatures			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Jan. 4	48	23	.....
Thursday	60	19	.....
Friday	64	19	.....
Saturday	47	29	.....
Sunday	40	18	.....
Monday	48	23	.....
Tuesday	46	23	.....

Back Over Your Shoulder



Remember this 1912 baseball team in Franklin? Front row—Sam Franks, Lewis (Luke) Angel, R. L. Carver, Frank Graves, and Jack Johnston; back row—Ken Cunningham, Claude West, Tom Ray, Grady Siler, Earl "Mutt" Munday, and Jack Crisp. The mascot, seated, is "Tuck" Angel (Dr. Farzaan).