

DIMES DRIVE EXTENDED TO SETTLE DEBT

Stockton Says \$7,000 Needed To Meet Quota, Repay For Assistance

J. Horner Stockton this week disclosed it will take an estimated \$7,000 to clear Macon County's debt with the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

In an effort to raise this amount, he has ordered the extension of the annual March of Dimes drive here to February 15.

Speaking as chairman of the county March of Dimes chapter, Mr. Stockton said the national foundation twice in past years has advanced several thousand dollars to Macon County for treatment of polio victims.

More than \$3,000 was used in '55 for treatment here, he said.

"We were supposed to have repaid the money we borrowed," Mr. Stockton declared, "and we hope this extension will enable us to settle this obligation."

He estimated that roughly \$7,000 will settle the debt and give Macon its quota in the campaign this year.

Meanwhile, benefits over the county continue to pour more money into the March of Dimes account. This year's drive chairman, Dean Carpenter, yesterday reported \$1,594.77 already on hand.

Contributions this week included \$122.34 from the Otto community, \$127.16 from Otto School, and \$77 from the Highlands community and home demonstration women, raised Saturday night at a benefit amateur show at Cullasaja School.

The drive was scheduled to end yesterday.

District Scout Supper Planned For Franklin

Boy Scouts and their families and leaders of the Smoky Mountain District have scheduled a "family night" dinner party in Franklin on February 10, according to the district field executive, Tom Speed, of Sylva.

The covered dish meal will be served at 7 o'clock in the high school cafeteria.

Scouts are staging the event to mark National Boy Scout Week (Feb. 6-12). The Explorers of the Sylva troop will have charge of the program.

Franklin Explorer Scouts, and Cubs will celebrate the national week by wearing their uniforms to school.

A window display, using the theme, "Forward For God and Country", is to be prepared at Dryman's by the boys.

On the 12th, the individual troops and packs plan to attend church in a body.

Meeting To Plan First Aid Course Is Scheduled

An organizational meeting for a first aid course in Franklin has been called for Monday night at 7:30 at the Nantahala Power and Light Company Building.

The 18-hour course is being sponsored by the county American Red Cross chapter.

W. W. (Bill) Sloan, chapter first aid chairman, urges all interested in registering for the course to attend Monday's meeting so a schedule can be worked out.

The course is free.

Macon Construction Submits Parkway Bid

A local concern, Macon Construction Company, has submitted the low bid for construction of a new Blue Ridge Parkway link.

Its bid for the 2.82-mile section was \$1,243,440. It is now being reviewed by the U. S. Bureau of Public Roads office at Arlington, Va.

The new link will connect the N. C. terminal section and the parkway section running from Wolf Laurel Gap.



MEN WITH BUSH AXES are shown tackling the thick underbrush near Otto as clearing the right-of-way for the new link of US 23-441 from Franklin to the state line proceeds. Weather has been hampering operations to some extent, highway officials report, but activity is expected to pick up soon.

Swafford Is New President Of Franklin Commerce Group

Verlon Swafford, businessman and former alderman, has been installed as president of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce for '56. He succeeds W. W. Reeves, who has held the post for two years.

Meeting last Wednesday night to organize for the new year, and elect officers, the old and the new board of directors got their heads together for talks on past and future business, including preliminary planning for the chamber's annual dinner.

Officers who will serve during the year with Mr. Swafford are Frank B. Duncan, vice-president, and John L. Crawford, treasurer.

The executive secretary position, a salaried job, has not been filled since the resignation of Mrs. Lasca E. Horsley. Mr. Swafford said applications are now being considered.

Other members of the new board of directors, who were picked in a mail election recently, are Stephen Bundy, H. H. Gnuse, and J. C. Jacobs. All were elected for one-year terms. Hold-overs from the '55 board are Mr. Duncan and A. A. Siler, who are serving their second year of two-year terms.

Before turning the president's chores over to Mr. Swafford, the retiring president, Mr. Reeves, suggested the chamber's industrial booklet be revised and brought up-to-date. He reported that an industry which showed interest in a plant site near Otto had decided to go



Mr. Swafford

elsewhere and he advised that the options on the property be dropped.

In reviewing the work of the chamber in the past two years—with emphasis on the location here of Burlington Industries, Inc. — Mr. Reeves expressed his appreciation to the board members who worked with him for their cooperation and support.

A committee composed of Mr. Gnuse, Mr. Jacobs, and Mr. Bundy was appointed to plan for the annual dinner meeting and to report at the next meeting.

Mr. Crawford served as temporary secretary for the meeting.

February 15 was set for the chamber's next session.

Bowles Resigns As Principal Of Highlands School

Joseph E. Bowles, principal of Highlands School since last fall, has resigned because of illness in his wife's family.

O. E. Summer, former principal of the school and a teacher this year, has been appointed to the post by the school committee of the Highlands district. This is the third time he has been principal of the school. He resigned from the board of education last summer in order to take a teaching post.

It is understood Mr. Bowles and his wife, who also has been teaching in Highlands, have gone to Whitwell.

Crawford Heads Western Carolina Alumni Group

About 15 alumni of Western Carolina College met Monday evening at Franklin High to organize an alumni club for the county.

Officers elected to head the new organization include W. G. Crawford, president; Harry C. Corbin, vice-president; Mrs. Kate Williams, secretary-treasurer; and Dick Stott, reporter.

Robert Hall, alumni secretary of W. C. C., was on hand to help with organizing.

Purpose of the club is to further fellowship among alumni here and to promote the college among the young people. A scholarship plan for deserving students also is being considered by the organization.

Any person who has attended W. C. C. for the last one quarter is eligible for membership, according to the officers. No dues will be charged.

The place and time of the next meeting will be announced later.

It is estimated that more than 80 from Macon County have been graduated from W. C. C. and probably three times that many have attended at one time or another.

YOUNG MAN TO BE NAMED FRIDAY NIGHT

Will Receive Award At Jaycee Banquet; President To Speak

The big question, "Who is the 'Young Man of the Year of 1955?'" will be answered tomorrow (Friday) night.

At a special banquet in the Franklin High cafeteria, the identity of the outstanding young man is a featured item, along with an address by Edgar (Red) Gurganus, president of the N. C. Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Sponsors of the banquet are the Franklin Jaycees, who annually stage the search for deserving young men who are eligible for a "Distinguished Service Award" key for outstanding community service. The young man to be honored is picked by a secret committee of non-Jaycees and his identity is not disclosed until the night of the banquet.

Nominations for the award closed today (Thursday). Jaycee C. Jack Ragan, who is serving as liaison between his organization and the secret judges, yesterday said a number of nominations for the award are on hand.

All nominees will be recognized at tomorrow's banquet.

The banquet speaker, Mr. Gurganus, is a Williamston attorney. He plans to spend several days in this area addressing other Jaycee clubs and assisting the local club with extension plans in Bryson City and Murphy.

A "Boss of the Year" award also will be made at the banquet. Nominees for this award are confined to employers of Jaycees.

Franklin Is Elected Head Of Rural Community Group

28 Boxholders On New Route

Twenty-eight box holders in the Tellico section have been dropped from Franklin, Route 3, and are receiving mail on Bryson City, Route 3, according to Franklin Postmaster Zeb Meadows.

He said the change cuts about 10 miles from the local route. The new Bryson City route comes into Macon County from Swain to Lost Bridge, goes into the Tellico community to the head of Tellico, and down the Needmore Road into Swain again.

Franklin, Route 3, which used to go to the county line and back-track into Tellico, now goes to Carl Morgan's store in Tellico and up the Burningtown Road.

Gibson Elected Y. D. C. President

Sam Gibson, of Franklin, was elected Saturday afternoon to head the Young Democrats Club of the county during '56.

Serving with him are Mrs. Byrda Nell Perry, 1st vice-president, and Neil Finger, 2nd vice-president. The Rev. Bryan Hatcher was elected secretary-treasurer, but has since declined the position.

Election of officers featured a county-wide Y. D. C. meeting at the courthouse.

Present at the meeting were Lacy Thornburg, of Sylva, chairman of the 12th Y. D. C. district, and Tom Clayton, also of Sylva, president of the Jackson County Y. D. C.

Local Lassies Win 2 Games

Franklin's lassies won two games this week while the lads split theirs.

Friday night in Cullowhee, the boys were defeated 74 to 33. The girls won 37 to 23, with Lucy Henry hitting the hoop for 22 points.

Tuesday night against Highlands, Willard Smith paced the boys to a 58 to 40 victory. With Henry hitting for 12 points, the girls won their second for the week, 27 to 21.

Tomorrow (Friday) the teams will play Sylva High in the Highlands gym, and Tuesday night will meet Glenville High at Glenville.

C. A. P. Training Meet Is Scheduled Tonight

A training session for senior members and cadets is on tap tonight (Thursday) when the Franklin squadron of Civil Air Patrol meets.

The session is set for 7:30 at the high school, according to the squadron commander, A. C. Tysinger.

Chief Deputy Takes Over Jail Operation

Chief Deputy Newell Pendergrass has taken over operation of the Macon County Jail.

He succeeds V. E. Garrett, resigned, who held the post for about three years.

ATTEND SOIL MEETING

J. S. Gray, chairman of the board of supervisors of the Macon Soil Conservation District, and W. L. Harper, soil conservationist, attended the state association meeting of district supervisors in Washington, N. C., January 18-19.

Election of Woodrow Franklin as president and discussion of an "incentive" prize schedule for the '56 Macon County Rural Community Development Contest featured a meeting of the contest council last week.

Under a new ruling adopted by the council, the immediate past president of the winning community automatically becomes president of the group. Mr. Franklin was the '55 president of Holly Springs, which not only won the local contest, but went on to sweep the area event.

Others named to serve with him during '56 are C. Jack Ragan, vice-president, T. H. Fagg, reelected secretary, and W. W. (Bill) Sloan, reelected treasurer.

Discuss Schedule
Lengthy discussion centered on changes in the '56 prize schedule. To continue improvement and maintain interest, the council decided the main prizes should be decreased and several "incentive" prizes substituted. It proposed the following set-up of cash awards totaling \$1,200:

1st place, \$200; 2nd, \$150; 3rd, \$100; 4th, five awards of \$50 each; and 10 awards of \$50 each for best job of increase in income; best accomplishment in youth activities; best home food supply; best community beautification; best programs, community participation in activities and attendance at meetings; best balanced agricultural program; most outstanding community project; best 4-H garden; best health program; and most outstanding accomplishments in religious activities.

Ineligible For Year
Retrospective to 1955, the council decided in the best interest of the contest, that the winning community cannot be eligible to compete for any of the first four awards for a year. It may, however, compete for any or all of the 10 "incentive" awards, and if, in the opinion of the judges, is better than the first place winner, will represent the county in area competition.

In a financial report, the treasurer, Mr. Sloan, reviewed expenditures for the '55 contest (\$1,396.90) and reported a cash-on-hand amount of \$127.10.

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Tobacco School Set Today In Franklin

Macon tobacco growers will meet at the Agricultural Building today (Thursday) at 9:30 a. m. for special instruction.

With Raleigh extension personnel in charge, topics slated include new weed varieties, chemical sterilization of plant beds, fertilization, inspection and disease control work, harvesting, grading, and marketing.

Monday, at 7:30 p. m., a dairy session is scheduled at the Agricultural Building with representatives of Southern Dairies.

Next Thursday (Feb. 9), a livestock school is planned at 10 a. m. with A. V. Allent and J. A. Christian, specialists in animal husbandry, in charge.

Seniors To Canvass Tonight For Donations For Washington Trip

A house-to-house canvass for donations for their trip to Washington, D. C., this spring will be made by Franklin High seniors tonight (Thursday) from 6:30 to 8.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall, as recorded in Franklin by Macon Station, E. S. weather observer in Highlands by Tudor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, TVA observers, and at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory.

FRANKLIN				
Temperatures				
	High	Low	Rain	
Wed., Jan. 25	39	30	
Thursday	46	25	..07	
Friday	50	21	
Saturday	45	30	..14	
Sunday	61	39	..07	
Monday	57	33	..49	
Tuesday	55	24	

COWEETA				
Temperatures				
	High	Low	Rain	
Wed., Jan. 25	41	30	
Thursday	46	19	
Friday	48	21	..04	
Saturday	44	31	..10	
Sunday	61	38	..33	
Monday	55	47	..26	
Tuesday	54	23	



Singing At The Courthouse

PROGRESS WON'T ERASE — Singing Is Of The Mountains

Taffy pulls and hay rides have been pushed aside by the portable barbecue pit and drive-in theatres; spelling bees have bowed out of the picture in favor of more worldly word games.

But, tradition has trampled Time's changing ways when it comes to a Sunday singing, because there're some things progress will never erase — and the old-timey mountain singing is one of them.

Singing is as much a part of the heritage of this region as the rugged individualism and storied stubbornness and independence that helped carve a way of life out of the wilderness.

It's easy to see that a Sunday singing is of the mountains, for mountain people — a tradition almost as old as the mountains themselves.

In attendance, nothing can approach the appeal of a singing. Hundreds pack the courthouse and churches for its morning preaching, dinner "on the ground", and afternoon of round-robin singing.

And Macon County stands as a stronghold of this oldest of the old pastimes.

Hold a singing at the courthouse (like last Sunday's fifth Sunday singing led by Jim Raby) here and they — singers and spectators — pour into town from counties all over the western end of the state; a group

of Cherokee Indians and delegations from Jackson, Graham, Swain, and "all over".

One after another, for hours and hours, quartets and singers take turns at the microphone for lusty rendition of hymns and songs, many that have never been put to music, but are handed down from voice to voice through the generations.

Look out in the audience — all ages, from babes in arm to men and women with faces etched deeply by time. There's a man 90 years old — watch how his head keeps time with the singers; see that twinkle in his eye?

There's some things progress will never erase.

The Sunday singings is one of them.

Koreans To Appear On M. Y. F. Program

Two Koreans attending Brevard College will appear on the program Monday night for the sub-district Methodist Youth Fellowship meeting at the Snowhill church, according to Miss Margaret Wilson, Methodist worker.

One student will speak and the other will sing, she said.

The program emphasis will be on the Methodist youth fund. The Snowhill M. Y. F. will have charge of the worship service.

Hour for the meeting is 7:30.