

P.T.A. GROUP LISTS NEEDS FINANCIALLY

Says Extra \$18,000 Could Put Schools Under County's Wing

In an analysis of school financial problems, a county-wide P. T. A. committee has decided that an extra \$18,000 a year in the budget could put Macon's 11 schools back under the protecting wing of the county.

At present, from a gross of about \$42,000, P. T. A.'s and school-operated stores are channeling an estimated \$17,000 into school coffers to cover operating expenses not included in the budget.

H. H. Gnuse, Jr., chairman of the committee, this week said P. T. A. representatives estimate that an additional \$18,000 (10 cents of the tax rate) would "pull the schools over the hump and let them move ahead instead of lagging behind."

Among other things, he said the committee has concluded the schools have been dropping behind a little bit each year because of the shortage of operating funds.

To illustrate, he pointed out the recent trend in the budget to use capital outlay money almost entirely for new construction, with very little going for equipment.

With this in mind, Mr. Gnuse said the committee wants to recommend to the county commissioners that in the 1956-57 budget the 15 cents levy for capital outlay be used almost exclusively for new equipment and improvements to existing facilities.

Any new construction could be financed with state bond money, he said.

Meet With Brown

At a meeting Monday night, the P. T. A. committee met with Commissioner Wiley Brown and outlined its findings. Later, when the county budget is being prepared, the committee will appear before the entire board to make its recommendations.

This school year (1955-56), the county's 11 schools will spend an estimated \$673,719. Of this amount, about \$131,915 (19.5%) is county money and the remainder is from other sources.

Taking this figure (\$673,719), the committee reports that all but \$9,000 is for teacher salaries and travel. And, of the \$9,000, the bulk, \$8,600, is for maintenance at the schools, with the remaining \$350 allocated for janitorial supplies.

Tennessee High School Band Slates Concert Here Today

At 1:30 today (Thursday) the Harriman (Tenn.) High School Band will present a concert in the Franklin High gymnasium under the auspices of the local band.

Admission will be 10 and 25 cents, according to Director T. A. Orr. Proceeds are earmarked for the local band.

Now on its fifth annual tour, the Harriman band has made more than 400 appearances in concerts, parades, and a variety

of civic, industrial, and athletic events since its organization in 1940.

In addition to Franklin, stops on its tour include Cherokee, Sylva, and Forest City, in this state, and Westminster and Abbeville, S. C.

For the local concert, the band will play a variety of numbers, ranging from marches to a rumba. Two novelty numbers also are listed. John Dameron is the director.

VIC PERRY NAMED AS V.F.W. HEAD

Succeeds Meadows; Joint Installation Of Officers Slated

Macon's V. F. W. post has a new commander in Victor H. Perry, of Franklin.

He was elected to the post Wednesday night of last week. He succeeds Zeb Meadows.

Others elected to serve with the new commander during the year are T. H. Fagg, senior vice-commander, Dr. G. R. McSween, junior vice-commander, Fred Dowdle, quartermaster, Dr. J. W. Kahn, post surgeon, the Rev. R. D. Burnette, post chaplain, C. Banks Finger, post advocate, and Mr. Meadows, three year trustee.

A joint installation of officers is planned by the post and auxiliary next Wednesday night at the post home on Palmer Street. Mrs. Richard H. Slagle is the reelected president of the auxiliary.

V.F.W. Post Gives Go-Ahead For Work On Athletic Field

After experiencing some difficulty finding a contractor to do the job, the local V. F. W. post has given the go-ahead on its project to drain and sod the field at Franklin High.

Macon Mica, local contracting concern, started work on the field Tuesday morning.

The project calls for moving an estimated 5,000 yards of dirt. The field will be crowned in the center to give proper drainage and then will be sodded.

Jack Ragan, head of the V. F. W. project committee, said the contract has been awarded on a per yard basis. Until it is

known how much dirt will have to be moved, a price tag cannot be set on the job, he explained.

In its field fund, the post has about \$700, according to the out-going commander, Zeb Meadows.

"If it runs more than that we'll just have to go in debt," he declared.

He also pointed out that individuals and organizations might want to contribute to the fund.

Working with Mr. Ragan on the project are T. H. Fagg, Howard Barnard, Edwin T. Williams, and Dick Slagle.

'Long About Sunup, Streams Were Lined With Fishermen

Long about sunup this (Thursday) morning, hundreds of unshaven and yawning creatures of the "Fraternal Order of Avid Anglers and Waders" lined Macon's miles of fast-running streams and at this moment are officially opening the '56 season.

Meanwhile, back at the old homestead, all is calm and serene. Bleary-eyed spouses are trying to recoup some of the "shut-eye" they lost during the early a. m. while whipping up breakfast for their intrepid fishermen.

A Hectic Time

It's been a hectic time for the women-folk these past few weeks. The eyes of their husbands have mirrored contentment born of anticipation, as they hung over the back fence or dominated dinner table conversation with penetrating observations about creel limits, wet and dry flies, and glass and bamboo rods.

And now, that much is over (until next year) and the women are looking happily to this afternoon when hubby deposits

his aching body on the couch for a snooze, after first giving instructions on how to properly scale a fish.

Plenty Of Fish

Victims of "trout-itis" shouldn't experience any difficulty filling their creels.

Reed Queen, who is in charge of the trout rearing pools at Arrowood Glade, this week told of stocking thousands of young trout in wildlife refuge and county streams in preparation for opening day.

Most of the trout run between seven and twelve inches, he said, and will average about nine or ten.

In the Wayah Wildlife Management Area, where trout fishing has been curtailed somewhat this year, the streams were stocked with 400 trout.

Standing Indian area, which offers 60 fishing days this year, received 1,050.

Cliffside Lake, between Franklin and Highlands, was stocked with 4,200 fish. These were sur-

DRIVE HERE IS EXTENDED

To Raise Quota, Red Cross Campaign Given Extension To April 15

As anticipated, the county American Red Cross fund campaign has fallen short of its goal and has been extended 15 days.

The campaign will now run through April 15, according to Mrs. Elizabeth McCollum, chapter executive secretary. It was supposed to close Saturday.

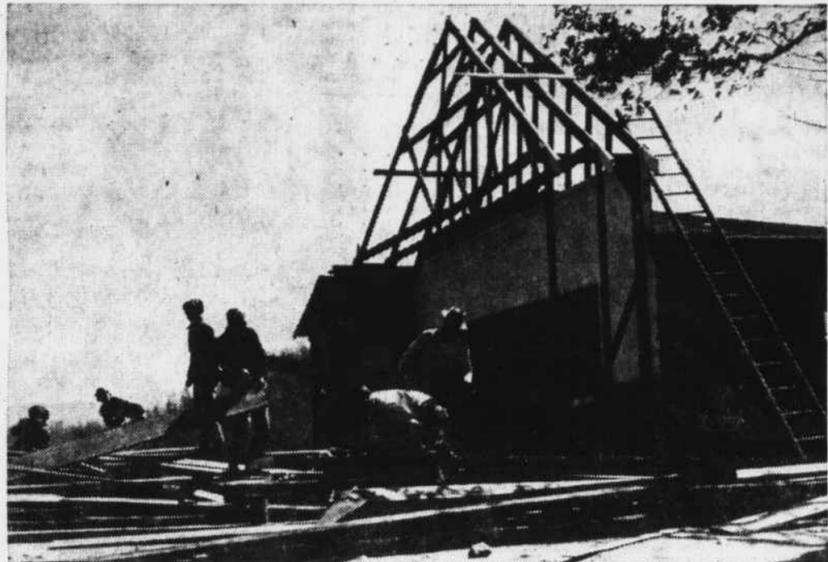
In announcing the extension officially, the secretary said about \$1,688.10 of the \$3,730 quota is now on hand.

She asked all communities, schools, and volunteer workers to report contributions immediately so a rundown of local progress can be forwarded to national headquarters.

C. A. P. Meeting Set

With the selection of cadets and senior members to represent Franklin in the upcoming air search-rescue operation on the agenda, Capt. A. C. Tysinger urges all members of the Civic Air Patrol to turn out for tomorrow (Friday) night's meeting at the high school.

The meeting will be at 7:30. Capt. Tysinger said the local squadron plans to send several to Asheville May 10-11-12 for the state-wide C. A. P. operation.



MEN AND BOYS of the Prentiss Church of God are shown razing the church on the right-of-way of US 23-441 south of Franklin. The church is to be rebuilt near Union School. The building is one of about 25 being razed or moved along the new highway project.

Fair Meeting Is Called For Friday Night

A planning session for Macon County's fair this fall has been called for tomorrow (Friday) night at 7:30 at the Agricultural Building.

Emphasizing that "right now" is the time to begin laying the foundation for the fall event if it is to be successful to any degree, County Agent T. H. Fagg yesterday (Wednesday) urged everyone to turn out and give a hand. He said a good representation of both businessmen and farm men and women is needed.

Last year was the first time a county fair had been held here in many years. Although small, it was termed very successful and the fair committee, with the assistance of the local extension staff, hopes to make one an annual affair.

"We showed that the job could be done last year," the county agent commented, "and we want this year's to be even bigger and better . . . but it's going to be something we'll all have to work at to put over."

Charlie Sutton and Wiley Brown are co-chairmen of the present committee. Holland McSwain is secretary and W. W. Sloan is treasurer.

Highway Work Progressing; Georgia Starts Short Link

With grading scheduled to start about May 1, clearing the right-of-way and building structures on US 23-441 (south) from Franklin to the state line moves along.

Meanwhile, Georgia has started preliminary excavation and culvert work on the US 23-441 section from Mountain City to Clayton, a link of slightly more than three miles and the center span of a proposed relocation from the state line south to Tallulah Falls. The first section of the project, from the line to Mountain City, went into use last summer. Under terms of the contract, the contractor has 220 days to complete the latest link, it is understood.

On the Franklin-Georgia project, right-of-way is rapidly being cleared in preparation for grading operations. About 25 buildings are being razed or moved from the right-of-way, according to Resident Engineer S. T. Usry.

Workmen already have finished pouring the concrete on the large triple-barrel culvert in the center of the project in the Prentiss area. Work on a single-barrel culvert closer to Franklin is coming along, the engineer reported this week.

and the concrete work on it should be finished by next week.

In addition to these two, the structures contract on the project calls for construction of a bridge and seven more culverts along the 12.46-mile project.

Late News and Briefs

PRESS EDITOR STRICKEN

Weimar Jones, editor of The Press, suffered what has been described as a mild heart attack Sunday night while en route home from Winston-Salem.

He is now confined to C. J. Harris Community Hospital, Sylva, for observation, but expects to return home by the middle of next week.

The editor and his wife had spent the Easter week-end with SEE NO. 2, PAGE 8

Warning Given — Sewer System Overworked

Franklin has been warned that its sewage disposal system is woefully inadequate, and the day may not be too far in the future when the municipality will be forced to spend \$100,000 or more to modernize it.

A couple of years back, an official of the state health department frankly warned the board of aldermen of "the day when we're going to come here, with some teeth in the laws."

Warning is about all the department can do at present. And Franklin, like most small towns in the state, is hamstrung financially and unable to make many improvements.

This official, and others who have followed him, was outspokenly critical of the town's inadequate and overworked Imhoff septic tank on the Little Tennessee River and bitterly condemned the increasingly popular practice of channeling sewage into the river "raw."

"Someday," he cautioned, "the law is going to be on our side . . . we'll be able to straighten this thing out."

System Overtaxed
Simply because the town's sewage system is overtaxed, running sewage into the Little Tennessee "raw" has become the rule, rather than the exception.

As each new business or home goes up near the river, a new sewer pipe goes into the stream.

All of the Bonny Crest section, East Franklin, and the East Franklin School sewage is "raw" — and the first two are town-installed pipe systems.

When word that the school sewage was going "raw" into the river reached health officials,

the hassle with school officials started.

No Teeth
The school won — as the state official aptly put it, the law has no teeth.

Even if the town could afford to tap all sewer lines into the regular disposal system, Water Supt. Herman Childers says it would be useless.

The lone Imhoff septic tank,

built in the early 30's by W. P. A. can't handle the work it has to do now, he explains.

Tank Needed
To do an adequate job of handling the nearly 500 families tied into the system at present, another tank of similar capacity is needed, Supt. Childers figures.

And this extra unit (sludge SEE NO. 2, PAGE 4



GAME PROTECTOR Charles H. Boring scratches his head in amazement at the fishing apparition standing before him all decked out in life jacket and carrying a minnow bucket, lunch box, lantern, net, and an assortment of plugs and flies "just in case" he runs across something with fins. Under-

neath all that stuff is Franklin pharmacist Ross Cloer, who went along with the gag photo to herald today's opening of the trout season. Seeing Mr. Cloer so arrayed, the protector commented, "If I saw something like that I'd just turn it loose."



THIS TELL-TALE pipe means "raw" sewage is going into the Little Tennessee River, an increasingly popular practice as new homes and businesses go up along the stream. Health officials have warned of "the day" when they will have the law behind them to halt the trend.