



The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

Merry
Christmas

71st Year — No. 51

SECTION A

Franklin, N. C., Thursday, December 20, 1956

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Monday Sets New Record At Franklin Post Office

Christmas hit the Franklin Post Office with a haymaker Monday, establishing the day as the biggest in history.

Catching his breath under the onslaught of cards and packages conspicuously marked with "Do Not Open 'Til Christmas" stickers, Postmaster Zeb Meadows reported the following morning that Monday's stamp sales hit an all-time daily high of \$772.20.

In addition, the office staff (no extra help was needed, Mr. Meadows said) figured in the cancellation of 18,000 letters and

cards, not to mention many pieces requiring hand stamping and about 750 pieces of parcel post.

They had the job well under control and "everything up" by 7:30 that night, the postmaster said.

Monday probably will stand as the peak day of the Christmas season, for things in the office started a downhill slide toward normalcy Tuesday and Wednesday.

"At least we're hoping it was the peak day," Mr. Meadows declared, against a backdrop of knee-deep packages.

Macon County Behind Only One In College Enrollment

Macon leads all but one neighboring county in the number of its high school graduates who enroll in college.

Comparative figures are contained in a county-by-county survey made by the State Department of Public Instruction. They show that Macon's percentage of 23.8 per cent is topped only by Swain with 38.5 per cent. These compare with the state average of 31.3 per cent, the low of 7.6 per cent (Tyrrell County), and the high of 48.1 per cent (Pasquotank County, including Elizabeth City).

The percentages for Macon's other neighboring counties look like this: Cherokee, 18.7; Clay, 14.4, and Jackson, 20.2.

The figures are reported to the department by each high school principal the second school week in September.

It is not known how other principals determine the number of their graduates who go on to college, but Harry C. Corbin, of Franklin High School,

uses the number of students who request transcripts. A record of a student's high school grades must precede him to college and, on the basis of the number of records (transcripts) sent, Mr. Corbin believes he has an accurate figure for those enrolling.

Nile F. Hunt, coordinator of teacher education for the Department of Public Instruction, conducted the survey. In answer to a letter from The Press, he wrote:

"I believe the national average of high school graduates attending college is about 31 per cent, or essentially the same as our state average.

"Another index often used is the percentage of college-age youth in college. In this latter respect, North Carolina ranks next to the bottom, if not at the bottom, among the 48 states.

This seems to indicate that the chief difficulty in North Carolina is keeping high school students in school until they graduate."

Auto Lands Here...

An Oldsmobile flew into Franklin the other day. And with no engine, at that. The landing was made without incident at the local airport.

Car of the future? Not at all, in fact this Olds is of vintage 1901-03. It's the body of one of America's early horseless carriages and was flown here for the E. S. Purdom Company to make a replica. The original body then will be put into storage as an antique.

Owner of the Olds body is I. W. Steele, Jr., of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Purdom says Mr. Steele is an antique car collector and that when the new body is finished, Mr. Steele will have the auto assembled.

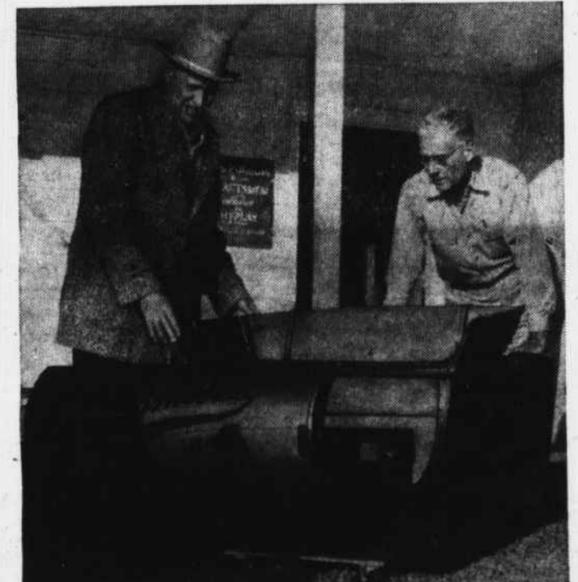
Mr. Purdom believes he can duplicate the body in about one week. Work, however, won't get under way until after Christmas. The body will be made of ash.

Auto manufacturers of the early 1900's weren't very careful about putting the dates on their cars, Mr. Purdom says. ("They were more concerned with getting the things to run.") This makes it difficult to establish the date of the Oldsmobile model.

A man who was the assistant chief engineer at Oldsmobile from 1934 to 1941 is a friend of Mr. Purdom's and is helping the local craftsman secure the original drawings for Olds models of the 1901 to 1903 period. He is M. A. Thorne, now engineer in charge of vehicle development, engineering staff, General Motors Corporation. Mr. Thorne was in Franklin on business recently and took a look at the body.

Mr. Purdom has an owner's book of instructions for the early Olds autos and reading it offers a contrast to cars of then and now. For instance, the Oldsmobile's engine was mounted behind the driver. It had only one cylinder, the gas tank held but four gallons, and steering was done by means of a lever that rose vertically from the front of the carriage.

At least two of the old car's features are again in use today after being discarded along the way and then improved and reintroduced the auto makers. These are the single pedal on the floorboard (for the brakes) and a band transmission.



This is a picture of the Oldsmobile flown here for some facelighting in the shop of E. S. Purdom. Looking it over are M. A. Thorne, a General Motors official, and Mr. Purdom (right).

GIRLS RACK UP 2 MORE CAGE GAMES

Boys Divide Theirs; Teams To Play Fines Creek Here Tonight

Franklin High's lassies chalked up two more victories this week in their climb toward the conference championship.

The boys split their games, bowing to Cullowhee and defeating Webster.

Meeting Cullowhee last Thursday night at Cullowhee, the girls squeezed by in a close game, 44 to 42, with Lucy Henry bucketing 20 points for scoring honors. In the boys game that followed, Franklin ended up on the short end of a 51 to 41 score. Willard Smith hit the hoop for 21 points to lead his teammates in scoring.

Playing in the local gymnasium Tuesday night, the girls took an easy victory over Webster, 77 to 22. Mavis Gibson copped scoring honors with 22 points. The boys, paced by Gary Clark and Dean Long, who racked up 20 points each, won 67 to 58.

Tonight (Thursday) the Franklin teams will play Fines Creek at the local gymnasium. The first game of this non-conference clash is set for 7:30. No more games are scheduled until after the holidays.

Fouts Wins Soil Post

Milton Fouts, of Franklin, Route 4, is the winner in this month's election to elect a supervisor for the Macon County Soil Conservation District for a three-year term. He defeated J. S. Gray, of the Hickory Knoll section, who had been nominated for reelection to the three man board, which oversees conservation work in the county.

The election was held county-wide the week of Dec. 3-8. Edwin T. Bradley, of Route 3, and Robert C. Parker, of Route 1, are the other two members of the board.

Weed Allotments Now Available Through A.S.C.

Farmers may now make application at the county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation office for 1957 burley tobacco allotments.

Miss Mildred Corbin, office manager, cites the following requirements for securing an allotment:

1. The farm operator shall have had experience in growing burley tobacco, as a sharecropper, a tenant, or as a farm operator during two of the past five years.

2. The farm operator shall live on and obtain 50 per cent or more of his livelihood from the farm covered by the application.

3. The farm covered by the application shall be the only farm owned or operated by the farm operator for which a burley allotment is established for the 1957-58 marketing year.

4. The farm shall be operated by the owner thereof.

5. The farm or any portion thereof shall not have been a part of another farm during any of the past five years, 1952-56, for which an old tobacco acreage allotment was determined.

Miss Corbin said applications may be filed through Jan. 31.

Post And Auxiliary To Attend Christmas Program In A Body

Members of the American Legion post and auxiliary plan to attend the community Christmas program at the Franklin Methodist Church tomorrow (Friday) night in a body.

At the end of the program, they will go to the recreation room in the basement of the church for refreshments to be served by members of the Music Study Club and the auxiliary. This will take the place of the regular meeting of the groups. The community program will start at 8 o'clock.

Christmas Candids . . .

(Press Photographer's Hidden Camera Investigates Yule Shopping)



Ray "Jaybird" Henry And Friend



Billy Horsley, 20 Months, Hugs A Teddy



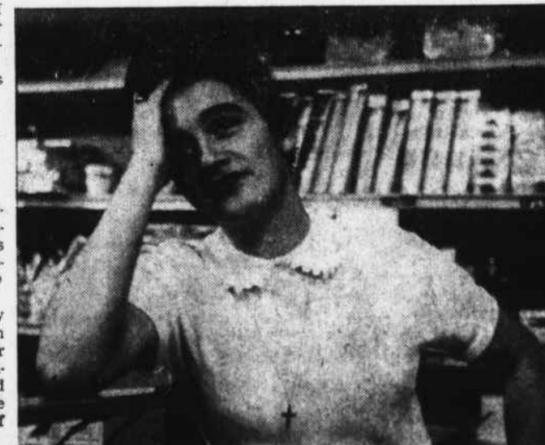
Jimmy Watts, 9, Is Just Looking



Wayne Cunningham, Wants Gift Wrapping



Mother And Daughter Make A Decision



Salesgirl Susie Wallace Is 'Pooped'

County Prepares For Christmas

With the temperature as incongruous to the season as palm trees to the Nantahalas, the celebration of Christmas on Tuesday by Maconians appears likely to be warm in weather as well as spirit.

Merchants are, expecting a bumper-crop from now through Christmas Eve.

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The week's temperatures are recorded in Franklin by Manson Smith, in Highlands by U. S. weather observer; in Highlands by Tudor N. Hall and W. C. Newton, TVA observers; and at the Coweta Hydrologic Laboratory. Readings are for the 24-hour period ending at 8 a.m. of the day listed.

FRANKLIN				
	High	Low	Rain	
Wed., Dec. 12	59	46	1.54	
Thursday	62	45	.08	
Friday	62	56	.58	
Saturday	64	52	.82	
Sunday	69	49	.21	
Monday	72	38	.00	
Tuesday	66	41	.00	
Wednesday	60	40	.00	
HIGHLANDS				
Wed., Dec. 12	52	42	.80	
Thursday	56	50	1.40	
Friday	58	54	1.08	
Saturday	58	53	1.82	
Sunday	63	45	1.19	
Monday	66	40	.00	
Tuesday	60	44	.00	
Wednesday	60	42	.00	
COWETA				
Wed., Dec. 12	57	44	1.23	
Thursday	61	53	.37	
Friday	64	57	1.59	
Saturday	63	52	1.25	
Sunday	69	47	trace	
Monday	69	36	trace	
Tuesday	65	40	.00	
Wednesday	60	42	.00	

free. Suppose the situation were reversed, and you were a refugee in Hungary. As a self-respecting person, the first thing you would want would be a job, a chance to stand on your own feet. And that is the first thing the thousands of Hungarian refugees in the United States want—men and women whose only crime is that they hate Communism and dictatorship. Have you a job some Hungarian refugee could fill? If you have, it would be the finest Christmas gift you could give. If you can offer employment for one of these Hungarian refugees, write a letter to Refugees, care The Press. Your letter will be forwarded to the proper agency at Camp Kilmer, N. J. Be sure to say what the job is, what the pay, what the working conditions, and if housing is available.