

# The Franklin Press

and  
The Highlands Maconian

SECOND SECTION

Franklin, N. C., Thursday, January 17, 1957

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**William C. Solesbee, Aquone Youth, Now Serving In Germany**

Pfc. William C. Solesbee, of Aquone, is serving with the 3rd Armored Division in Germany, according to an Army dispatch received here.

Pfc. Solesbee, 21, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sheridan Solesbee, of Aquone. His wife also lives in the Nantahala section.

A driver in Battery "C", of the division's 67th Field Artillery Battalion, in Friedsburg, he has been overseas since last June.

Entering the army in July, 1955, following his graduation from Nantahala High School, he received his basic training at Fort Knox, Ky.

**Pvt. Jerry Bailey Goes Back To Duty After Leave**

Pvt. Jerry Bailey has returned to duty at Fort Gordon, Ga., after spending a leave here with his wife, the former Miss Jean Mincey, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Bailey, of the Ellijay community. While on leave, Pvt. and Mrs. Bailey visited her sister, Mrs.

**Brunner, Native German, Recalls Hitler's Control**

"I was born in the mountains, raised in the mountains, and lived 37 years in the mountains. I've got no use for hot, flat country."

So, after 16 years in Miami, Fla., Simon (Sam) Brunner and his wife moved to Macon County. The mountains here are not as high as the Alps of his native Germany, but they're mountains enough, says Mr. Brunner.

The Brunners bought the old Charles Cabe home place in Clark's Chapel community three years ago. They have almost finished remodeling. One of the biggest undertakings in the renovation has been lowering the 11-foot ceilings in the large, two-story house. A magnificent view is to be had from looking out any living room window.

John C. Henry, in Macon Ga. They were accompanied by Mrs. Bailey's mother, Mrs. Fred Mincey.

Mr. and Mrs. Brunner learned of Macon County through his sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Fischer, also of Miami, who own a summer home just up the ridge from the Brunners.

Now, a third member of the



SIMON (SAM) BRUNNER

Brunner family may be coming here; Mr. Brunner is trying to interest his son-in-law—who, like Mr. Brunner, is an upholsterer—in moving to the Clark's Chapel area from Miami.

Simon Brunner left his home town of Munich in 1937 and headed for America. A relative living in New York City met him. After a few days' visiting there, the relative put the new immigrant on a Miami-bound bus. Mr. Brunner did not know a word of English.

In recalling the journey south, he tells about his seat mate, an American, who talked all the way to Miami. Unable to understand a word or to comment, Mr. Brunner just sat. The American chatted for the whole journey, apparently unaware that his words were wasted.

Mrs. Brunner and the children joined her husband the following year.

The year 1937 was but two

years before the outbreak of World War II. Hitler had control of Germany. The German citizen no longer was a free man, Mr. Brunner says.

"Sure, we could vote. And we had voting booths, but we never used them. A member of the party would be at the ballot table and tell us it wasn't necessary, just to mark our ballots there. They could see what we wrote and a man who voted the wrong way found himself without a job. Sometimes, your neighbors would just disappear and you would not know where they had gone—but you had an idea."

He says America wouldn't need to worry about fighting Russia if Germany could be reunited. "In five years, she would be ready and would fight Russia for you. We've never liked the Communists."

What amazed him about America when he first went to work in a Miami factory was that workmen could take a smoke or a snack break and the foreman didn't care. He said he

had been told in Germany that factory life in America was very hard, that the workers were pushed constantly.

here by doing upholstery. His wife, Therese, does all the sewing for slip-covers and the like.

On their 40-odd acre farm, they have half a dozen head of beef cattle and a milk cow. The barn is full of hay.

A hard worker, Mr. Brunner has no regular hours. "I work until a thing's finished."

He is an erect man in his bearing, with a twinkle about his blue eyes.

The Brunners have two children, both married, and five grandchildren.

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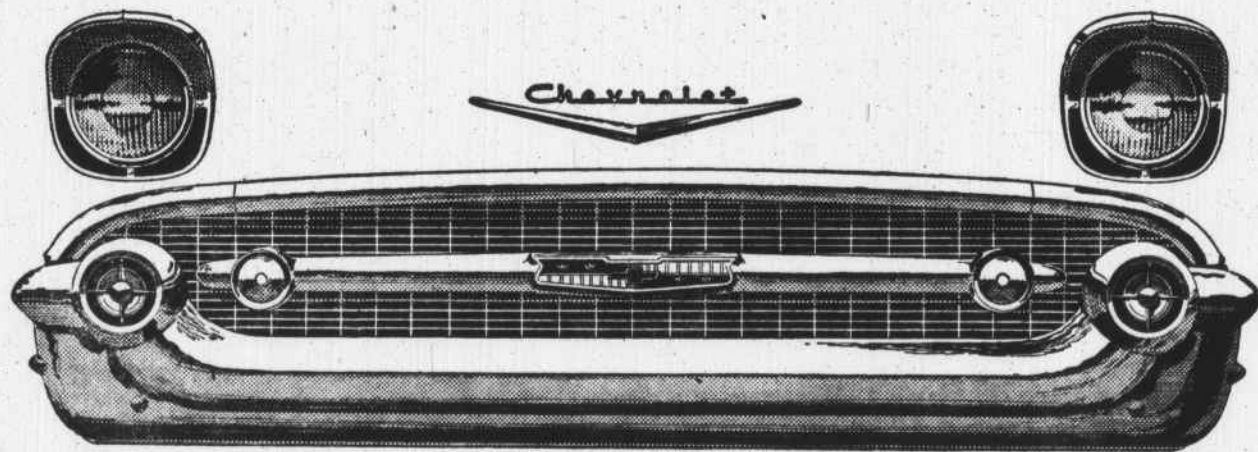
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