



RIISING WATER in the Little Tennessee River spilled over into the Macon County Airport runway last Thursday, curtailing activities . . . well, curtailing them to a certain extent, that is. (See picture, Page 4).

Little Damage Done Here By Heavy Rain And Flood

Macon County escaped with little damage from floods triggered by heavy downpours last week.

This wasn't the case, however, in nearby Jackson and Cherokee counties, where rampaging rivers and streams caused thousands of dollars in damage and forced the evacuation of many from their homes.

School busses going to the Rose Creek, Tellico, and Burningtown sections from Franklin High were allowed to leave early Thursday because of rising water. A number of pupils from Rose Creek and Burningtown were unable to make it to school Friday.

River Up

Swelled by intermittent downpours, mountain streams pressed the Little Tennessee River out of its banks early Thursday morning. By late afternoon the Macon County Airport—an inevitable victim of high water

resembled a sea plane base. However, little high water damage was reported here.

Through 8 a. m. yesterday (Wednesday) Franklin's rainfall for the month (Feb.) totaled 4.46 inches; Highlands, 4.79; and Coweta, 5.20.

Record Rain

Nantahala Power and Light Company reports the highest rainfall ever recorded for a 24-hour period fell at its Nantahala dam and plant on Jan. 31. This was 4.5 inches at the plant and 3.40 inches at the dam.

On this day it is estimated that 4,673 cubic feet of water per second poured into Nantahala Lake. The lake rose 20.5 feet between 6 a. m. Wednesday of last week and 6 p. m. Monday.

From 8 a. m. last Wednesday to 8 a. m. Thursday, Franklin had a 3.15 rainfall. A 3.23 reading was recorded at Cartoogechay on Thursday.

Well No Wetter, Aldermen Award Contract For Another

Franklin's "dry hole" well is no wetter at the 450-foot mark than it was last week at 418.

Town officials Tuesday night let the contract for sinking a new shaft at another location.

Thirty-two feet of free digging at no extra cost to the town failed to stir up any more water in the "dry hole" and the Virginia Well and Machinery Company pulled out its rig Tuesday morning.

Officially, the town abandoned the dry well last week, but the well digging outfit offered to dig on to the 450-foot level while a new location was sought. When the company quit at this level, the well was coughing up only about two gallons a minute.

meeting in regular session Tuesday night, Mayor W. C. Burrell and his aldermen re-

viewed new bids for another shaft and awarded another contract to the Virginia outfit. Its bid was the same as for the old well, \$6.65 per foot. However, since it already is on location, the company offered a \$100 rebate, which had the effect of cutting the bid to \$6.32 per foot on the basis of a 300-foot shaft.

Three other concerns submitted bids, H. C. Huffman, of Hickory, \$7 per foot; F. B. Rogers, of Franklin, \$5 per hour, plus all materials; and B. M. Hughes, of Anderson, S. C., \$6.50 per foot.

Two sites are being eyed by the board for the new shaft. First choice is near Sheriff J. Harry Thomas's home across from the airport and the other is in the old Crawford sub-division.

Nantahala Delegation Seeking Funds For Shop Learns System Has Problem

A delegation from Nantahala School seeking funds to equip its new vocational shop learned Monday that money is a pretty general problem over the whole county school system.

The delegation, made up of Nantahala Principal Jerry A. Hall and A. Howard Cross and John Wis-

hion, members of the school committee, made its pitch before both the Macon Board of County Commissioners and the Macon Board of Education.

From both boards came the word that no funds are now available. A similar situation also exists in Highlands, where a vocational shop has just been completed. School Supt. Holland McSwain estimates that about \$10,000 is needed to properly equip both shops.

However, the superintendent said "it may be next fall before we can do it, though."

He and the board members assured those from Nantahala that some provisions would be made in the 1957-58 school budget for the shops, but that little could be done before then.

To offer some relief, the board authorized Supt. McSwain to secure what equipment he could for Nantahala, possibly through surplus channels.

"It's unfortunate," Mr. McSwain observed following the meeting, "but our present budget isn't adequate for even present needs, much less something extra."

The superintendent also said he is renewing the county's request for two vocational teachers to staff the shops at Nantahala and Highlands. A request was submitted to Raleigh several months ago.

"We'll keep renewing it until we get some action," he declared. "He said he plans to investigate the matter when he is in Raleigh later this month."

Mr. McSwain explained that the state requires at least an enrollment of 100 before approving a vocational teacher. Both Nantahala and Highlands are short of this figure, the former with an enrollment of 90 and the latter with 80.

The state does, however, make exceptions in special cases, he said, adding:

"We're hoping Nantahala and Highlands will be the exceptions."

COLLEGE OFFICIALS HERE

Representatives of Berea College, Berea, Ky., and Brevard College discussed college careers with seniors of Franklin High this past week. Officials of other colleges will be visiting the high schools in the county at intervals between now and the end of school, according to Principal Harry C. Corbin.

Cullasaja Woman Believes In Regular Church Going

"The Old Devil likes to get on our trail and he's always ready to kick us if we'll slow down enough for him to catch up."

If the Old Devil has been looking for Miss Mae Belle Stanfield, whose words those are, he's likely to find her at the Cullasaja Assembly of God. Miss Stanfield hasn't missed a Sunday of preaching or Sunday School in the last 17 years.

And the big handsome certificate which hangs inside the entrance of the Cullasaja church attests to her perfect attendance, with the seventeenth year being marked down recently.

It hasn't been the idea of a fancy attendance scroll, which has encouraged her these years, Miss Stanfield said, it has been

the need she felt to be at the church to nourish her spirit.

During the nearly two decades, she taught the primary class (for 13 years) and was secretary-treasurer of the church (for five years and, following an interruption, now for the last four years). Presently, she also is teaching the junior class.

Lives Alone

Miss Stanfield, a pleasant, middle-aged woman who lives alone in the old family place on the Cullasaja River, has one thing which she does first every day after breakfast. With the dishes cleared, she sits down to read her Bible.

She has no system for reading the Holy Book. Instead, she opens it and begins at whatever

SEE NO. 1, PAGE 8

FATE OF BUS RESTS WITH COMMISSION

Local Delegation Protests Change At Friday Hearing

Is Franklin going to lose its morning bus to Asheville?

The answer to this question now rests with the State Utilities Commission, which conducted a hearing into the matter in Asheville Friday afternoon after previously blocking a move by Smoky Mountain Stages, Inc., to eliminate the bus without first petitioning the commission.

A decision is expected from the commission at any time.

Questioned

At the hearing before Commissioner E. V. McMahan, of Brevard, the key figure was J. H. Quattlebaum, vice president of traffic for Smoky Mountain Stages, who testified as a sworn witness and was questioned at

SEE NO. 2, PAGE 8

Board Eyes Jail Needs

The Macon Board of County Commissioners took a look at the jail Monday with an eye to expanding its facilities — a recommendation made by the grand jury in Dec.

Although they took no action formally, the commissioners discussed building a concrete block structure on the back side of the jailer's quarters. The structure would contain two rooms, to be used by the jailer's family.

Part of the living space now used by the jailer's family is in the basement. If a new structure is built, this area would become available for cells.

Sheriff J. Harry Thomas spoke to the commissioners on the "acute need" for additional space.

Other Business

In other business, the commissioners received an insurance company notice that Ralph W. Cunningham, Franklin taxi driver, is insured, as required by law; received a letter from the State Board of Health that W. E. (Gene) Baldwin, chairman of the board, has been re-appointed (ex-officio) to a two-year term on the district board of health; approved a bill from the jailer for \$188 for 25 prisoners during January; and endorsed a resolution passed earlier in the day by the board of education.

Favors 2 Things

The resolution puts the commissioners on record in favor of: (1) another state-wide bond issue for school buildings, and (2) the school budget for 1956-57 as prepared by the state board of education. The resolution will be transmitted to Macon County's legislators.

The semi-annual list of names of more than 400 persons on county welfare rolls, with the amounts they receive, was filed with the commissioners by the Welfare Department as a public record.

All three members of the board, Chairman Baldwin, Wiley Brown, and John W. Roane, were present at the meeting.

Houk Leaves For Raleigh On Tuesday; Says He Has No Legislation In Mind

Macon's Rep. Guy L. Houk left Tuesday for Raleigh where he is attending the 1957 session of the general assembly, which opened yesterday (Wednesday).

Accompanying him is Mrs. Houk, who expects to return home later.

Asked what prospective legislation had been brought to his attention, he replied: "The requests for money. Every state agency wants more money. . . . It's going to be a rough session."

This will be Representative Houk's second term in the legislature, having served in 1955. For seniority purposes, however, he has three sessions to his credit, last summer's special session on the schools-segregation issue being counted, as well as the regular convenings.

On 11 committees in the 1955 session, Representative Houk said he wouldn't attempt to guess what committees would be assigned him this time. "I'll leave that to the Speaker."

Franklin Girls Tops In Division

Cinch Title When Swain Beats Next Team In Line

Even with games still to play, the Franklin High lassies Friday night sewed up the eastern division girls basketball crown of the Smoky Mountain Conference.

While the girls were handling Webster an 82 to 36 shellacking on the home court, Swain High was knocking off second place Greenville, putting Franklin beyond the reach of any challenges.

Mavis Gibson hit the hoop for 36 points against Webster to pace the girls to their eighteenth straight victory and twelfth conference match this season. The

game was played on the local court when weather conditions prevented it from being held in Sylva, as scheduled.

Tuesday night the girls took an easy 52 to 21 victory in a game here with Highlands. Miss Gibson led in scoring with 22 points. This gave the girls nineteen straight.

Boys Win

Franklin's boys racked up victories during the week also. They downed Webster 50 to 43 with Gary Clark, Larry Brooks, and Willard Smith each bucketing 12 points. In Tuesday's clash with Highlands, Smith had one of his best nights of the season, hitting for 36 points to lead his team to a 61 to 43 win.

Tomorrow (Friday) night the locals journey to Greenville for games. The Smoky Mountain tournaments get under way next week in Robbinsville and Bryson City.

Team Members

Members of the championship girls' team include forwards Lucy Henry, Mavis Gibson, Bonnie Lee, Claudette Leatherman, Carolyn Dowdle, Shirley Lenoir, Barbara Carpenter, and Leota Beck; and guards Jean Phillips, Jean Sutton, Frances McClure, Joyce Cabe, Joyce Cole, Joyce Pendergrass, Grace Shepherd, Kate Buchanan, Helen Setser, Inez Hedden, Garnetta Vanhook, and Edith Sheffield.

Mrs. Rose Corbin is coach.

Girls' Tourney Bid Goes To Swain High

Franklin High was unsuccessful in its bid to get the Smoky Mountain Conference Girls Basketball Tournament.

Following a meeting of conference officials Monday night, it was awarded to Swain High in Bryson City. Robbinsville got the boys tournament.

Tournament play is scheduled to get under way next week, according to Principal Harry C. Corbin. Although it is still to be decided at a meeting this week-end, the girls probably will play the 13th, 15th, 21st, and 23rd, if the procedure of past tournaments is any indication. By the same token, the boys should play the 14th, 16th, 20th, and 22nd.

(As soon as the official schedule of games is available, it will be posted on The Franklin Press bulletin board at the courthouse.)

Assistant Agent Reports For Work

Mrs. Joan Hennessee, of Sylva, Monday took over duties here as assistant to the home agent, Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill.

She succeeds Mrs. Jessie D. Cabe, who held the position for some three years.

A native of Knoxville, Tenn., and a graduate of the University of Tennessee, Mrs. Hennessee has been hired on a "temporary basis" until Sept. 1, at which time Mrs. Cabe is expected to rejoin the staff.

Mrs. Hennessee is the wife of Jack Hennessee, of W. C. Hennessee Lumber Company, and has been substitute teaching at Cherokee High School in recent months.

Just Forget About It . . .

Just forget all that to-do about Brer Groundhog seen' his shadow on the 2nd.

Shucks, any real mountaineer knows that Groundhog Day is Feb. 14.

So disregard all that city-fied propaganda and look to the 14th for the little animal's forecast.

Register Of Deeds Now Out Of Hospital, Is Working At Home

Lake V. Shope was back home this week after a stay at Angel Hospital where he has been confined with osteomyelitis.

Still unable to be at his courthouse post, as register of deeds, nevertheless, Mr. Shope was asking for work. He had work that could be done at home sent to him there.

The Weather

The week's temperatures and rainfall below are recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, 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., Jan. 30	55	47	.02
Thursday	60	47	3.15
Friday	70	47	2.58
Saturday	60	33	.52
Sunday	54	42	.15
Monday	68	51	.71
Tuesday	61	52	.09
Wednesday	55	49	.49
COWETA			
Wed., Jan. 30	55	45	.70
Thursday	63	48	1.00
Friday	70	51	2.89
Saturday	58	30	.53
Sunday	54	42	.30
Monday	66	52	.97
Tuesday	65	52	.35
Wednesday	55	46	.16
HIGHLANDS			
Wed., Jan. 30	53	44	.49
Thursday	58	46	.86
Friday	60	48	2.48
Saturday	50	37	.50
Sunday	54	32	trace
Monday	61	52	1.45
Tuesday	56	50	.19
Wednesday	55	48	.08



Miss Stanfield Reads Her Bible



Mr. Houk