

Business Is Better At Office

Business in Franklin, at least the post office's business, continues to be better this year than last, according to dollar receipts for the quarter just ended.

Postmaster Zeb Meadows said this week post office business was up 4.53 per cent over the corresponding period for 1956. In dollars, it was \$8,132.94 for the April-June quarter of 1957, while '56 showed \$7,750.43.

The January-March quarter of this year was up six per cent over the previous year.

Courtesy Boxes Are Authorized

The jolt of receiving an over-time parking ticket in Franklin may be lessened somewhat by a proposed touch of convenience.

Aldermen have okayed the purchase of 10 ticket boxes, which will make it easier to pay the \$1 fine for overparking by eliminating a trip to the town hall. A motorist will just drop the ticket and his fine into one of the boxes, which will be placed at different points over town. Special envelope tickets will be used.

The courtesy boxes are costing the town \$18.50 each and they will be used on a three-month trial basis.



Jim Brinkman Polishes A Ruby

BRINKMAN'S HOBBY NOW JOB — Scratch A Lapidary And You Find He's A... Gem Cutter

Jim Brinkman has entered a field which is new to Franklin and is an outgrowth of the in-time basis this spring. "I started small and kind of let the thing feel itself out." He reports he's got so much business he needs an assistant.

He taught himself to cut gems. "Anybody can do it," he says encouragingly. "It's like music. Once you learn the scale you're on your own." The more self-taught a cutter is, the better he is, Mr. Brinkman believes; "self-learned lessons stick the longest."

A native of Arizona, mining is not a new thing to him. He grew up around mines and his father worked them all his life. In addition to cutting stones owned by other people, he sells those which he has found himself. A number of other related items—such as arrowheads—are on sale in his shop.

The biggest ruby he's cut was one weighing 136 carats. It is owned by Miss Ruth Holbrook, who found it on the top soil at the family mine one day last year, although it was not cut until this month. It was cut into two stones, one 29 carats and the other 32.

Proof that there's artistry in the work of a lapidary can be found in these words of the "artist": "If I get a good look at a stone once I'd recognize it if I saw it a year later. There's something a little different in every one."

Surviving in addition to his wife are four sons, John, of Asheville, Paul, of Statesville, and Ralph and Reid Womack, of Franklin; three daughters, Mrs. Elsie Franks and Mrs. Sam Hall, of Franklin, and Mrs. Armond Petrozzi, of Brilliant, Ohio; 11 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

SILAS WOMACK DIES AT 83; WAS PAINTER

Served As Deacon In Baptist Church; Wife Survives Him

John Silas Womack died at his home in Franklin at 11:30 a. m. Wednesday of last week after an illness of three months. He was 83 on June 2.

A son of Jonas and Mrs. Sarah Milton Womack, he was a native of Macon County and a life-long resident. He married Miss Ella Hughes Oct. 22, 1901. She survives.

Mr. Womack was a painter by trade. He had served as a deacon in the Franklin Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held at 11 a. m. Friday at his church with the pastor, the Rev. M. W. Chapman, officiating. He was assisted by the Rev. Thad Dowdle. Burial was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Pallbearers were Evan Hogsed; George Elliott, Frank Tallent, Walter Dean, Quince Hauser, and Algie McCall.

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Miss Rogers Dies At Home Of Sister Here

Miss Flota Maybelle Rogers, 71, died Thursday at 1 a. m. last week at the home of a sister, Mrs. R. D. Wells and Mr. Wells, in the Patton community, after a lingering illness.

Miss Rogers was a native of Haywood County but had lived here for the last 34 years. She was a daughter of T. J. M. and Mrs. Lura Ruff Rogers; born April 13, 1886.

Funeral services were held Friday at 3:30 p. m. at Louisa Chapel Methodist Church where Miss Rogers was a member. Officiating ministers were the Rev. R. L. Poindexter and the Rev. Glenn Anderson. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Pallbearers were Elmo Rogers, William Kirkbaum, Rogers Wells, John D. Wells, Truman Rogers, and William Cunningham, all nephews.

Surviving in addition to Mrs. Wells, is another sister, Mrs. Allan Stokely, of Del Rio, Tenn.; and four brothers, Cordell and Arnold Rogers, of Route 2, Milburn, of Waynesville, and Curtis, of Clyde.

Social Security Man Doubles Visits

The Social Security district office in Asheville has doubled the number of days it has a representative in Franklin in order "to render a better service to the people of Macon County", according to Glenn H. Pittinger, office manager.

A new schedule provides that a Social Security representative be in Franklin on the second and fourth Mondays and Tuesdays of each month. Previously, it was on only the second and fourth Tuesdays.

This month, the first visit will be on Aug. 12 and 13. Time is 9 a. m. each day and the place is the agricultural building.

Sam Higdon Aids Couple In Wreck

Sam Higdon, of Franklin, aided two injured persons whose car wrecked Wednesday morning of last week on the Sylva-Balsam detour.

Mr. Higdon was taking a group of Pony League players to Canton about 9 a. m. when he saw the car approaching him veer gradually to the side of the road and then tumble down an embankment.

He lifted the injured man partially out of the car and then he and Ronnie Mashburn, one of the passengers in Mr. Higdon's car, helped make the man's wife comfortable inside the wrecked vehicle until the ambulance arrived. The woman suffered a broken neck.

Mr. Higdon said he didn't know what caused the accident. He was about 60 feet from the oncoming auto when it left the road. The Sylva-Balsam detour is a narrow dirt road known as Dark Ridge Road and several minor accidents have occurred on it.

M. Y. F. MEET POSTPONED
The regular meeting of the Macon Methodist Youth Fellowship Sub-District has been postponed from Monday, Aug. 5, to Aug. 12. The meeting will be held at Snow Hill Methodist Church at 8 p. m.

The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian
THURSDAY, AUGUST 1, 1957

Langfitt Is Ordained By Presbyterians

The Rev. Donn Langfitt, examined and approved for the ministry by the Asheville Presbytery last week, was ordained and installed as pastor of the Franklin Presbyterian Church in ceremonies here Sunday afternoon.

A commission of out-of-town ministers conducted the ceremony.

A June graduate of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va., Mr. Langfitt is a native of West Virginia. He accepted a call to Franklin following his graduation.

Prison Camp Gets First Grade A

For the first time in its history, the Macon County Prison Camp has received a Grade A sanitation rating.

Behind this achievement is a trail of gradual improvement. On Aug. 19, 1955, the camp rating was 65.5; on Dec. 7, 1955, 80; on Aug. 11, 1956, 85; on Nov. 13, 1956, 86; on March 12, 1957, 87.5.

Its last inspection saw the rating go to 90, qualifying it for a Grade A.

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"Itemizing the News"
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"The Family of Weimar Siler"

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Special Notice to PROPERTY OWNERS

If 1956 County Taxes are not paid by July 31 property will be advertised and sold as provided by law.

J. HARRY THOMAS,

Tax Collector

Club Will Work On Picnic Area

By MRS. ANNE BERRY
(Club Reporter)

The Higdonville Home Demonstration Club met at the home of Mrs. Anne Berry at its last meeting.

Mrs. Fred Corbin, vice-president, presided in the absence of the president, Mrs. Harry Moses.

Mrs. Corbin gave the demonstration on a vegetable salad.

It was decided by the club to work at the community picnic grounds for the August meeting. The members of the club plan to clean up the grounds and paint picnic furniture on that date. A picnic lunch will be served.

Bueck In Washington As Committee Member

H. Bueck, school superintendent for the county, was in Washington last week on business pertaining to the federal aid-to-education bill.

Mr. Bueck is one of two North Carolinians on this state's federal relations committee of the education association, and he was in Washington in his committee capacity.

Measuring Of Burley Completed

Measuring Macon County's burley acreage has been completed, according to Max Parrish, chairman of the county A.S.C. committee.

Of the 218 farms having allotments, 165 grew the weed for a total of 46.97 harvested acres, while 46 more placed 16.22 acres in the Soil Bank.

Seven with allotments did not grow burley or place acreage in the Soil Bank. Their allotments totaled 1.60 acres.

With Tom Alley as supervisor, the four reporters handling measuring this year were William E. Fouts, Frank Nolen, Dale Carter, and Stanley Penland.

State College Boys Arrive For Training

Students from N. C. State College School of Forestry, 47 strong and with two professors, arrived at Wayah Depot Monday last week for a month or more of training in the Nantahala forest.

The last of the Iowa State College students left that morning.

MRS. COGAN BACK

Mrs. Carolyn Cogan, home economics teacher at Franklin High School, returned home recently from the summer school session at Woman's College, University of North Carolina, Greensboro, where she took some vocational courses. Mr. Cogan, who had been in Virginia visiting his family, picked her up at Greensboro and they returned home by way of Myrtle Beach, S. C.

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