



## MEANDERING ALONG MAIN STREET

WORD GOING around has it that the difference between gossip and news is whether you hear it or tell it.

A NATIONALLY-known young pianist will appear in recital tonight (Thursday) at Hoey Auditorium on the campus of Western Carolina College. And, as usual, a large number of Maconians is expected to attend Alfred Moulden's concert, which is being sponsored by the Sylvia High band. It starts at 8 o'clock.

AN ANONYMOUS donor has given the Franklin Junior Woman's Club a gift of \$200 for its shoes for needy school children project. A person that generous shouldn't be anonymous. A lot of people would like to shake his hand.

A DISAPPOINTING crowd turned out Friday night for the back-to-college dance in Franklin. One chagrined lass commented, "They're more interested in complaining about not having something to do than doing something."

IF YOU'RE smelling something, it's probably the "body" of the '58 tourist season killed by Labor Day.

THE FRANKLIN Indian Mound, largest in North Carolina, is about ready for its winter haircut.

CITIZENS OF Jackson County seem to be having the same trouble as Macon in trying to keep some kind of bus service going. Queen City is trying to take away the 4:45 p.m. daily from Sylvia to Waynesville and the Jacksonites are in arms.

A STRONG TV signal will be coming this way before long from WFBC-TV down Greenville, S. C. way. They're putting a new tower in operation the 15th of this month.

PLANS ARE NOW under way, and they include many Maconians, to dedicate the new Balsam-Sylvia highway the 30th of this month. The ribbon-cutting is set for 11:30 a.m. on the new Willets Bridge and members of the State Highway Commission, who will be holding their fall meeting in Waynesville, will be on hand for the event.

## Higdon Reunion Slated Sunday

Descendants of Maj. William H. Higdon will gather for their 62nd observance of his birthday at his old homeplace at Higdonville, on Ellijay Creek, Sunday.

Starting in 1896, the family gathered for Maj. Higdon's birthday, and since his death in 1903 has met for an annual reunion and dinner on the anniversary.

## Late News

### P. T. A. MEETING

Franklin P. T. A. will hold its first meeting of the new school year Monday night at 7:30 in the high school cafeteria. It will be a "get acquainted" party for new teachers and parents.

### MAGAZINE SALE

The junior class at Franklin High is conducting its annual magazine sale September 10-24 to raise money for the junior-senior banquet.

### HIGHLANDS P. T. A.

A meeting of the Highlands P. T. A. has been called for Monday night at 7:30.



MACON COUNTY Airport is being readied for the coming "Pilots Ruby Rendezvous" week-end after next. The dark area on the field is a section that has been cleared of weeds and burned to provide more parking space for the 75-100 airplanes expected for the three-day event. (Staff Photos)

## FLY-IN DATE IS NEARING —

# Who Will Win 'Miss Ruby' Title?

Who will be crowned "Miss Ruby Fly-In"?

About 15 Macon County beauties will be adding to this mystery week end after next when pilots of the Florida Air Pilots Association fly here for their "Pilots Ruby Rendezvous".

The beauty contest to select "Miss Ruby Fly-In" will feature a special old timey "Mountain Hoe-down" being staged jointly by the Jaycees and the Junior



Who Will It Be?

Woman's Club for the pilots and their families. Miss Harriet Murray is in charge of the beauty contest.

Plans call for the Florida flyers to start arriving at the Macon County Airport the 19th. The "Mountain Hoe-down" is set for the night of the 20th on the west side of the courthouse. During the day, the visitors will be special guests at the Cowee Ruby Mines.

### Rain Date

A rain date for the "Pilots Ruby Rendezvous" is Sept. 26-27-28, according to an announcement appearing in this month's issue of AOPA Pilot, a national flying magazine.

Meanwhile, plans to accommodate the 75-100 airplanes and their passengers are being pushed cooperatively by the Franklin Chamber of Commerce and the Macon County Airport Association. The Jaycees also are lining up the many features of the "Mountain Hoe-down".

### Chairmen Named

Dr. G. R. McSweeney, chamber president, has appointed the following committee chairmen to handle arrangements: S. A. Bur-

dy, welcoming ceremonies; J. P. Brady, entertainment; Mrs. Lasca E. Horsley, transportation; Marshall Pettis, accommodations; and Frank Plyler, airport arrangements.

Mayor W. C. Burrell and other civic leaders also are being invited to turn out at the airport on the 19th as members of an official welcoming party.

### Old Contests

In addition to the beauty contest, the "Mountain Hoe-down" Saturday night will be highlighted by many old mountain contests, including sack races, slipper kicking contests, and three-legged races. Prizes will be awarded the winners.

All musicians and entertainers, especially those who performed at the recent Macon County Folk Festival, are invited to participate in the musical features of the night's program.

Exhibition square dance teams also will perform for the visitors, and free square dancing for the general public is planned.

### Airport Work

Work on the airport runways is continuing in preparation for the fly-in. A "pan" is being used to fill low spots in the main runway and sections bordering the auxiliary and main runways have been cleared of high grass to provide more parking space for airplanes.

A traffic control system of lights is being worked out by Mr. Plyler and other pilots and the tower at the main hanger will be manned at all times to assist pilots in landing and taking off. Local pilots and their planes will be available to lead in airplanes unfamiliar with the approaches to the airport. Provisions also are being made to provide all grades of gasoline. Traffic control on the ground will be handled by volunteers from the ranks of local pilots. Mr. Plyler said this week.

### GUILD BAKE SALE

The Wesleyan Service Guild of the Franklin Methodist Church will hold a bazaar and bake sale at the Nantahala Power and Light Company building Friday and Saturday, Sept. 19-20.

## '59 A. S. C. Program Will Open

Monday, September 15, is the opening day for signing up for the 1959 Conservation Reserve phase of the Soil Bank, according to Max Parrish, chairman of the county A.S.C. committee.

The A.S.C. office in the Agricultural Building opens at 8 a.m. Mr. Parrish said the first step for the farmer interested in the program is to stop by the office and request that annual rental payment rates be established for his farm. At the same time, the farmer should bring with him information to be used by the county A.S.C. committee in establishing rates for his farm. Mr. Parrish said the main facts needed are acreages and yields of the three principal crops on the farm for the past two years and acreages for other land use on the farm.

### Only Program

Conservation Reserve is the only Soil Bank program planned for 1959. Under this program, farmers retire land from general crops for up to 10 years and devote the reserved acreage to land, water, or wildlife conservation practices. The federal government makes an annual rental payment for the land and will also share in the cost of establishing the conservation practices.

### \$19 Per Acre

Average rental payment rate for Conservation Reserve land in Macon County in the 1959 program is \$19 per acre per year. Maximum payment rates will be higher for the most productive farms and lower for less productive farms, Mr. Parrish explained.

The sign-up period will end September 30 and all requests for establishing farm rates must be received by that date, according to Mr. Parrish.

## Tall Tale Told About Texas Toad

Texas is a land of tall tales and horned toads. And this yarn is a tall (but true) tale about a Texas horned toad.

A Maconian, Mrs. Jack Keeter, of Austin (where else but in Texas?), brought a horned toad to the grandchildren of the Dewey Corbin's. She thought it would make a fine pet.

First off, the toad caused some anxious moments when it buried in the sand in its box one night. They figured he'd escaped.

Then, as if sensing their anxiety, the horned toad did escape. A search failed to turn up a trace of the critter and the children gave him up for dead.

That was back in June.

Last week while picking beans, Mrs. Corbin nearly had her wits scared out of her when she looked down at the ground and discovered a pair of eyes peering back.

Yep, it was that Texas toad, alive and fat and sassy.

He's back in his box again, content after his travels to bury himself in the sand and live with his memories.

## Swafford Accepts Cherokee Church

The Rev. Arvil Swafford has accepted the pastorate of the Marble Baptist Church in Cherokee County.

He formerly served the Ridgecrest and Watauga churches in this county.

## 'Bootstrap' Campaign To Be Held Here

By giving up just six cold drinks or a pack and a half of cigarettes, Maconians can play a major role in obtaining new industry for their county and for Western North Carolina.

That's the theme being used by the new W.N.C. Industrial Development Corporation, a non-profit organization that has accepted the challenge of raising \$100,000 to promote the area as an "industrial paradise" and to make industrialists aware of the many advantages to be found here.

Twelve western counties, Macon included, are joining forces to back this large fund-raising campaign, which is being designated as "Operation Bootstrap".

### \$5,610 Quota

Figured on the basis of 33 cents per person (the cost of six drinks or a pack and a half of cigarettes), Macon County, with an estimated population of 17,000, will have an "Operation Bootstrap" quota of \$5,610.

Sam Gibson and J. P. Brady, of Franklin, are the county directors to the industrial corporation and will spearhead the local drive to raise the quota.

### To Publicize

The directors of this week said they are mapping a county-wide publicity campaign through newspaper and radio channels to take "Operation Bootstrap" to the people and give them the opportunity to understand our objectives and to help us pull the area up by its bootstraps by providing a larger industrial payroll.

### Special Booklet

A special booklet explaining the entire program, with special emphasis on the fact that "Operation Bootstrap" is "no a one county project, but one that is regional and will eventually help every man, woman, and child to a higher standard of living", is now being printed.

The corporation directors plan to distribute the booklets through the schools in advance of "Operation Bootstrap Day".

Mr. Gibson and Mr. Brady also will meet soon with county officials and civic leaders to enlist their help with the undertakings.

### Job For All

"This is not a one- or two-man job," they declared. "It is one that demands the participation of everyone interested in Western North Carolina and its growth. Thirty-three cents is little enough to ask for a brighter future for our children and their children."

## Graves Taylor, Radio Official, Dies In Tryon

Graves Taylor, part owner of Radio Station WFSC in Franklin, died Sunday at noon in a Tryon hospital.

Mr. Taylor, 50, suffered a heart attack Friday and had been hospitalized since.

A frequent visitor here since the station went on the air last year, Mr. Taylor was a veteran of World War II. He worked in Cleveland, Ohio, as a writer, broadcaster, and public relations man before moving to Tryon in 1948.

Funeral services were conducted yesterday (Wednesday) morning in Tryon.

## Pleasant Hill Plans Homecoming Sunday

Homecoming and decoration day will be observed Sunday at the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

The Rev. Thad Dowdle, Jr., will preach at the morning worship service.

Picnic lunch will be spread at noon. Following lunch, those attending will visit the cemetery and decorate the graves. The regular program will then be resumed at the church.

3,654 ARE ATTENDING —

## Opening School Enrollment Is Lower Than Last Year's

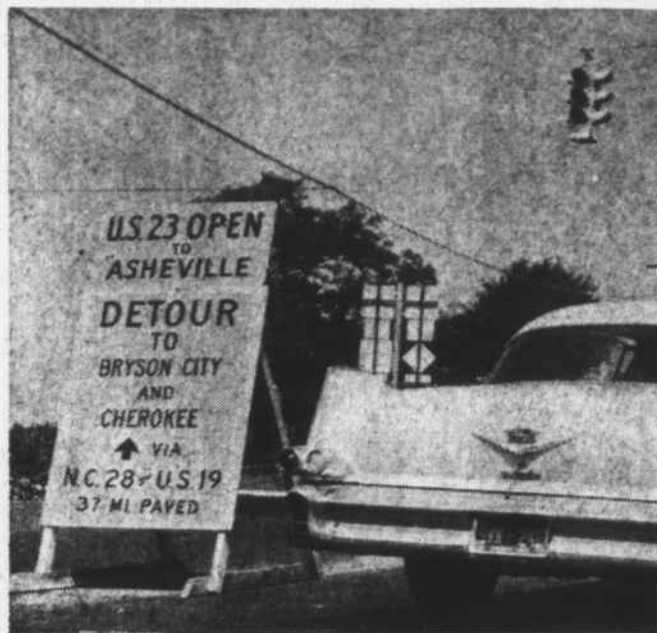
Total enrollment in the county school system is 3,654, according to Supt. H. Bueck.

Of this figure, 962 are attending high school and 2,769 elementary school.

The total is slightly less than it was for the beginning of the 1957-58 school year when 3,738 children were enrolled. However, by the end of the 1957-58 year, attendance was up to 4,107.

High school enrollment is 796 at Franklin; 84 at Highlands; 69 at Nantahala; and 13 at Chapel (Negro).

Elementary figures run this way: Franklin, 400; East Franklin, 383; Cullasaja, 264; Union, 236; Cowee, 235; Otto, 233; Cartoogechaye, 264; Iotla, 210; Nantahala, 168; Highlands, 312; and Chapel, 54.



Detour Sign . . . But Not Ours

(Staff Photo)

## NOT OURS, THOUGH! Well Imagine That! Those Detour Signs Are Back

Those harbingers of highway progress, detour signs, once again have taken root at Macon County intersections.

However, detour-weary Maconians can take heart in the knowledge that the latest outcropping has no direct bearing on the county's highway situation.

The detour belongs to Jackson County, where construction has started on the relocation of US 441-19A between Dillsboro and Gateway.

This county's connection in the project is the rerouting of traffic

over NC 28 and US 19 to Bryson City and Cherokee. Under normal circumstances, motorists from here heading for Cherokee or Bryson City follow US 441-19A.

Information received here has the 8.55-mile Dillsboro-Gateway section closed to all but local traffic. And, "local traffic" has been defined by highway officials as those living within the area of construction.

Maconians are all too familiar with the yellow and black detour signs. Up until recently, they have dotted the local highways since the early '50's.

Two of Macon County's few nonagenarians added another candle to their birthday cakes Sunday.

At 95, one of the community's best known Negroes, "Aunt Nan" Ray, rose unassisted from her chair to greet callers dropping in to wish her many happy returns.

Mrs. Lee "Aunt Carrie" Crawford, who still moves with a speed many younger than her 94 years would find breathtaking, bustled about like her birthday was just any other day.

## Mrs. Mary Brown, Maconian, Passes At Ball Ground

Mrs. Mary Brown, a native of this county, died Sunday at her home in Ball Ground, Ga. It has been learned here.

She was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Higdon. Attending the funeral Monday afternoon in Ball Ground were Sam, A. R., and Major Higdon, and Mrs. Ellen Smith, all of this county.

## Home Ec Group Meets Monday In Franklin

Sixteen persons, representing five counties, attended Monday night's meeting of the Smoky Mountain Home Economics Association at Kelly's Inn in Franklin.

Two members of the Franklin Garden Club presented the program. Mrs. Sam Winkleblack reported on fall garden practices, and Mrs. B. L. McGlamery gave a demonstration on drying flowers.

Members from Macon, Jackson, Swain, Graham, and Haywood were present. Plans for the coming year were made by the association.

## Wesleyan Guild Meets Tonight

The Wesleyan Service Guild of the Franklin Methodist Church will hold its monthly meeting at the church tonight (Thursday) at 8 o'clock.

Hostesses will be Mrs. Margaret Tysinger, Mrs. Florence Sherrill, and Mrs. Genevieve Barnard.

## Windy Gap Road Work Under Way

### State Highway Says Two More County Projects Slated

An estimated \$24,868.60 will be spent improving the Windy Gap Road, according to an announcement from the State Highway Commission.

Work already has started on this county project. It involves regrading, draining, and applying course aggregate base course and bituminous surface treatment to 1.4 miles.

The completion date will be about October 15.

Two other county projects also have been listed for completion on or before June 30, 1959. One involves putting a bituminous surface treatment to 0.8 mile of Sloan Street in East Franklin. The other is grading, draining, and putting a base course to 1.1 miles of Henry Road on Little Ellijay.

It is estimated work on these roads will cost \$14,868.60.

## After Breather, Panthers Meet Clayton Friday

After a week's breathing spell, Franklin High's Panthers meet Clayton (Ga.) High tomorrow (Friday) night at 8 o'clock on the local gridiron.

This non-conference clash will be the second game of the season for the Panthers, who had an open date last Friday night.

Freshmen filled in the football thrills Monday night in a game here with Murphy, winning 20 to 12.

## Briefing For Canvass Is Slated

Volunteers planning to assist with the Franklin religious canvass the afternoon of the 21st will gather for a briefing and "snack supper" Sunday afternoon at 5:30 in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church.

About 200 men, women, and high school students will be needed to conduct the survey between the hours of 2 and 4 on the 21st. Yesterday (Wednesday) this number had not been reached and ministers requested those interested in helping out to show up at the Sunday briefing.

Also, the ministers have requested everyone in Franklin to remain at home during the canvass hours so an accurate tabulation can be made.

Four churches—Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Episcopal—are cooperating in the canvass.

The Rev. R. R. Standley, Baptist pastor, is chairman.

## Anderson Family Plans Reunion Here Sunday, Sept. 21

The Anderson family will hold its 62nd annual reunion Sunday, September 21, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Lyman Ledbetter near the Louisa Chapel Methodist Church.

All friends and relatives of the clan are invited to attend and bring a picnic lunch.

This is one of the oldest organized reunions in Macon County.

### EPISCOPAL CLASSES

For the past four Wednesdays, an "inquirer's class" has been held at the St. Agnes Episcopal Church by the Rev. John W. Tucker.

## The Weather

The week's temperature and rainfall below are recorded at Franklin by Macon Station. 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		
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., 3rd	82	56	.00
Thursday	85	50	.00
Friday	86	52	.00
Saturday	85	50	.00
Sunday	87	53	.00
Monday	81	50	.08
Tuesday	80	42	.00
Wednesday	—	46	.00
COWETA			
Wed., 3rd	80	49	.00
Thursday	81	48	.00
Friday	82	48	.00
Saturday	82	56	.00
Sunday	83	64	.00
Monday	84	45	.00
Tuesday	78	38	.00
Wednesday	77	41	.00



## MOTOR BLAZE BESTS 'BIG BETSY'

Franklin's largest producing well, "Big Betsy", was knocked out of action Monday night about supper time when her pump motor overheated and caught fire. Above, Fire Chief A. C. Tysinger (left) and Jim McCollum are pumping an extinguisher solution on the smouldering motor. The loss of the well's output will be negligible, since storage tanks are full. (Staff Photo)