



TONIGHT (Thursday), the Boston Concert Ensemble will play at Western Carolina College at 8 o'clock. Many Macon music lovers are planning to take in the concert since it's just a hop and a skip over the ridge.

QUICK SUMMER, wasn't it? Quite a few pulled out sweaters Sunday and Monday to knock off the chill of the cold front moving through the area.

WHAT'S WRONG with F.H.S., Class of '49? Got a reunion coming up Sunday and there hasn't been too much response. Don't you want to meet old friends?

THE MAIN RUNWAY at the Franklin Airport reopened Monday. The 3,000-foot strip wasn't disappointed either, because a twin-engine aircraft dropped in for a visit and officially christened it.

WOULDN'T TRAFFIC flow better on Saturdays in town if the lights on Main and Palmer were synchronized so traffic going from Main to Palmer via Phillips wouldn't snarl up at the Palmer light and back vehicles into Main?

ATTENTION FRANKLIN town fathers! Brevard is considering the city manager plan of government. Canton just recently voted it in, and their new city manager is on the job. Worth considering for us?

STRAY DOGS are giving a lot of folks in the Mulberry section a fit, and they say no one will do anything about them. Mrs. Walter Mason knows of at least 12 strays roaming the neighborhood. Doyle Long recently saw some people dump dogs out in the community. This is a bad situation.

DON SMITH has given the rustic touch to his DeSoto Trail Gift Shop in East Franklin.

ANOTHER ROCK shop is operating in town. Pat Henry, home from school for the summer, has opened one in his father's store building on the Highlands road.

SHAME ON ALL of you! To think that you'd work so hard to raise money to build a youth center in Franklin, and then be too busy to turn out and help get it started.

THE CHAMBER of commerce is getting more and more inquiries about the Cowee Ruby Mines. Which just proves that steady publicity pays off. The area has received some wonderful publicity this season, too, and it should be reflected in the cash registers at the end of the season.

BUMPITY, BUMP over the culvert detour! But, they're really making headway now that the weather is cooperating. Shouldn't belong now before most will have forgotten there was ever a detour there.

FLAME AZALEA and mountain laurel should still be beautiful on Wayah Bald this week. Some report the azalea color surpasses any ever seen here.

THE COURTHOUSE meeting seems to have been a step in the right direction — if they just keep on walking, or running, toward a solution.

FOR THOSE who wonder why the fire siren sounds for long now that the dial system is in use, you must remember that it can't be turned off at will, only by the first fireman to reach the fire. SEE NO. 1, PAGE 12



WORLD FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPHER VISITS WAYAH BALD

Alfred Eisenstaedt (left), LIFE magazine photographer, who ranks among the top 10 photographers of the world, visited Wayah Bald Friday while on a picture-taking tour of the South. Mr. Eisenstaedt was very impressed with the beautiful color of Wayah's stand of flame azalea. Pictured with him is Hugh Morton, of Linville and Wilmington, a photographer of note, owner of "Grandfather Mountain", and a member of the State Department of Conservation and Development. Also on the trip was Miss Betty Patterson, a LIFE reporter. While on Wayah, Mr. Morton took a number of color pictures for post cards. (Staff Photo)

Big Talent Hunt Show Set Here

Advance registrations indicate the "mountain talent hunt" slated to open here tonight (Thursday) won't go wanting for talent.

Helped by area-wide radio and newspaper publicity, string bands, dance teams, and other entertainers have kept a steady stream of registration cards pouring into the Franklin Chamber of Commerce.

Planned for "under the stars" in the Franklin High stadium, the audition-shows will get under way nightly at 8 o'clock.

On hand all three nights will be Bob Cox, of St. Petersburg, Fla., the talent scout who requested the three-night event to see if he can find one, or possibly two, mountain acts suitable to take to the west coast for movie and television auditions.

He already has selected the Smoky Mountain Cloggers to make the trip. This is the Macon County dance team he put on the Ed Sullivan show, and he's convinced the group of young dancers has what it takes to lick Hollywood.

Mr. Cox has emphasized that the acts he is now seeking must reflect authentic mountain entertainment. SEE NO. 2, PAGE 12

Jaycees Plan 4th Celebration

Plans for conducting a Fourth of July celebration have been announced by the Franklin Junior Chamber of Commerce. Tentative plans were made for the annual event sponsored by the Jaycees at a meeting Monday night.

Because of a lack of interest shown last year, the club has decided not to sponsor the contests held during the morning and afternoon. However, the night activities will be enlarged, according to R. M. Biddle, Jr., Jaycee president.

Free square dancing, exhibition dancing, a variety of games, and a "Miss Fourth of July" beauty contest are among activities now being scheduled.

Mr. Biddle said more detailed plans will be available as soon as the Jaycee committee in charge meets and decides upon a program.

AN OPEN LETTER TO PUBLIC

(Editor's Note: The drive to build a youth center appears to have fallen on its face. Materials and labor needed to build the center have been on hand for some time. However, persistent pleas for volunteers to help prepare the youth center site apparently have fallen on deaf ears. Not one person showed up Saturday to work. Apathy appears to be killing the project; hence, the following open letter to the public from A. A. Brooks.)

Dear Friends,

Are we going to revive our almost gone community spirit and put Franklin Memorial Park back in business—or are we going to sit back and allow the jungle to take over again? You already have a very substantial investment there, but we hope no one is naive enough to expect any dividends from an inoperative business.

Dozens of children are using the limited facilities there almost daily, but where are the parents, and the teenagers, when we ask for some help to install additional playground equipment, erect a shelter, and do a few other things that will add immeasurably to the usefulness and attractiveness of the area? We have these materials on hand, and only need a little assistance to get them off the warehouse floor.

The starting of construction of the "Teen Center" building is at a dead-end for the lack of about 30 "man or boy hours" to finish moving the sod from the building site. Have we lost interest in this project too? Things like these which are begun with a great deal of enthusiasm and left hanging in mid-air like a forgotten skeleton should be a monumental answer to the ones who have been losing sleep about why our young people leave town as soon as they can thumb a ride.

We won't get into the "tourist" angle, but will ask the Chamber of Commerce secretary to explain to us at our meeting why so many of them are tourists, and don't hesitate with us long enough to be classed as visitors.

Please bring your entire family (and a covered dish) and meet with us Saturday at 7 p. m. at Slagle Memorial Park—and some of you might come down, at 9 in the morning or 2 in the afternoon for long enough to lay a little sod on some fresh dirt in the picnic area. It will improve your appetite!

Cordially,

Allan A. Brooks, Chairman Building Committee.

AT LAKE FRANKLIN — Annual 4-H Dress Event Slated Friday Afternoon

East Franklin School will be the scene tomorrow (Friday) afternoon of the annual 4-H Dress Review.

Set to begin at 2 o'clock, the review will be judged on the Danish system, and ribbons will be presented to the winners. Prizes have been donated by a number of Franklin stores.

Narrator for the review will be Glenda Lee, Union 4-H clubber. Carole Wurst, of the East Franklin club, will give the welcome. Special singing also is on the program, featuring Linda Ledford, June Wells, and Martha Blaine, with Nancy Cochran as pianist.

Peggy Dills, of the Franklin club, is chairman of the decorating committee. The social

committee is composed of members of the Clark's Chapel and Cartoogechaye Junior clubs.

Review divisions include Aprons; Sport Clothes; School Dresses; Party or Best Dresses; and Other.

By divisions, 4-Hers who have made definite plans to compete are:

Aprons: Margaret Bailey, Eunice Holland, Jane Hastings, Margaret McCoy, Helen Marie Slagle, Karen Houston, Lillie Carver, Betty Sue Tallent, Peggy Crisp, Janice Crisp, and Pauline Morgan.

School Dresses: Jewel Fox, Brenda Seagle, Elizabeth Am-

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RAILROAD COMMITTEE IS FORMED

To Raise Fund For Legal Aid At Hearing

A "Save the Railroad" committee was organized by businessmen here Monday night. Its sole objective will be to fight the abandonment proceedings instituted by the Tallulah Falls Railway.

More than a score of local businessmen, plus two representatives of Ritter Lumber Company, which ships over the line, met in the conference room at Nantahala Power and Light Company to organize and map strategy.

Bob S. Sloan, publisher of THE PRESS, was elected chairman. W. W. Reeves is serving as treasurer.

To Raise Fund

The committee plans to raise a fund to hire legal aid to represent Franklin business interests at the Gainesville, Ga., public hearing June 29 on the abandonment application submitted by the railroad.

A large delegation from here also will attend the hearing.

It is the contention of the "Save the Railroad" committee that the railroad, regardless of its obvious inefficiency, is nevertheless vital to the growth of the area.

"Can you think of a town in this section that has grown without a railroad?" questioned the chairman, Mr. Sloan.

Moreover, the businessmen feel the abandonment of the line will cost the area dearly in existing industry (lumbering, for example), not to mention railroad workers, many from here, who will be out of jobs.

Another Meeting

Another meeting will be scheduled by the committee prior to the Gainesville hearing. Final strategy will be mapped at this time. Legal representatives will be briefed.

Meanwhile, an official with the law firm of Kenyon, Ken-

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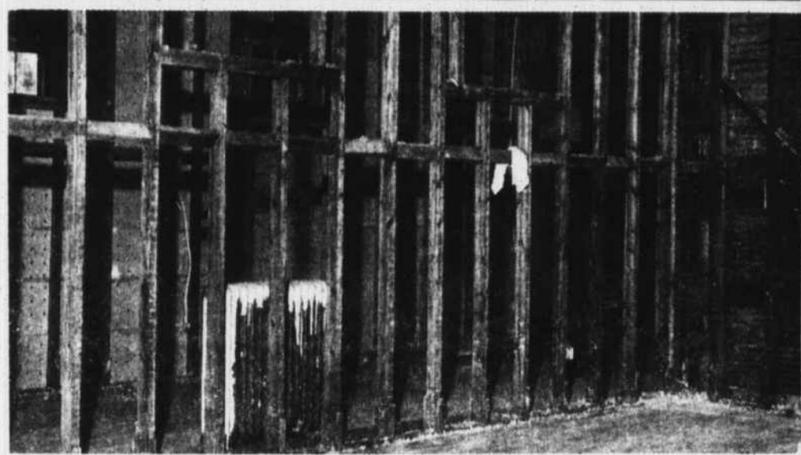
'Coon Hound's Master To Get S.P.C.A. Award

Luke Chastain, the master of Macon County's celebrated 'coon hound, "Old Touse", is going to receive a medal tomorrow (Friday) night for his humanitarian efforts in freeing the hound from a rock cliff tumb last December.

The medal is to be presented at a special awards dinner being held at the Battery Park Hotel by the Asheville chapter of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Representatives of the Asheville Kennel Club and the W. N. C. Veterinary Medical Association also will be on hand.

Asked if he could attend the function, Luke laughed, "I'll go, but I'd rather be 'coon hunting'."

During a 'coon chase, "Old Touse" was trapped in a rock cliff in Georgia. It took Luke and his friends 18 days to free the hound, whose day-to-day plight became a worldwide news happening.



What's left of Mrs. C. K. Olson's eighth grade room.



Workmen put wallboard in a room, in preparation for plastering.

(Staff Photos)

AT TUESDAY MEETING — Estimates Asked For Courthouse

As the upshot of Tuesday night's public meeting about the county courthouse, estimates of remodeling and new construction costs are to be obtained and another open meeting held July 14 to further discuss the matter.

Sixty-five persons, including the three-man board of county commissioners, were on hand for the open meeting at the courthouse.

The few who spoke up on the issue were in solid agreement that the present 79-year-old structure is inadequate and that something must be done to protect records from fire.

A solution fell into two sides, (1) renovation of the present building, and (2) construction of a new one.

Neither side pressed, however, apparently choosing to wait and see how the estimates are being run.

Lester G. A. Jones, who described his stand as "underfired," but not in favor of a patched-up job, was the one who suggested that the county commissioners consult contractors, obtain costs, and then call another public meeting to go deeper into the matter.

Board Chairman W. E. (Gene) Baldwin, who presided at the meeting, said Mr. Jones' suggestion would be carried out and he set the next meeting

for July 14 at 8 p. m.

Here are some points brought out by individuals at the meeting:

Chairman Baldwin: The county is not in shape at present to handle a large bond issue to build a new courthouse and jail. However, in three to five years, as the school building bonds are paid off, the county probably would be able to handle a new issue.

G. L. Houk: The lawyer said he had checked the county's bonded indebtedness with County Accountant Tom Henson and, although they did not complete the check, it is his personal opinion the county cannot, at present, borrow enough to build a courthouse "in line with the needs of the county." He said it is not only a question of the safety of records, but where to get valuable records arriving at the county offices every day. Plans and blueprints must be provided.

Chairman Baldwin: Kelly Henson said he would be glad to provide the records.

J. C. Sorrells: If the present courthouse is renovated, you'll have the same old courthouse, with the same old space. Still, wouldn't have what you need... we're already 50 years behind."

Wiley Clark: As a contractor, he feels the present walls are

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Franklin School Job Under Way

Building Sound; Project To Cost \$12,000

A face-lifting project on the 26-year-old Franklin Elementary School is now in the mid-stages.

Supt. H. Beck estimates the renovation is going to cost about \$12,000. However, this stitch-in-time project should prepare the old school for many more years of service, he said this week.

The interior of the eight-room school has been almost gutted by workmen. All that remains is the floor, partition studs, and the rafters. All rooms will be replastered. In addition, each will receive new blackboards and cabinets.

Mr. Beck said workmen found the old building to be sound when they had stripped it inside. Terminals were found only in two places, and this damage was not serious. Windows that had rotted have been replaced with new ones.

When the interior is finished, the school will be ready to call for bids to complete the job on the exterior. The outside woodwork will be painted.

Mr. Beck said for many more years the school will be ready to go.

The new four-room annex on the west end of the building is not being renovated. However, the rooms will receive fresh coats of paint.

Mr. Beck said the job will be finished before school opens this fall.

The renovation is being done by the school system's regular maintenance crew, with extra labor from some school janitors and school bus drivers.



WATER WONDER GETS A NEW FROCK FOR SEASON

This is the "new" Bridal Veil Falls on US 61 between Franklin and Highlands. The difference? The road no longer goes behind the falls, although in constructing the by-pass the state highway department left the old road for those who would like to use it. The by-pass, which has just been completed, was prompted by icing during the winter. (Staff Photo)

so says "MR. MACONIAN"

Hi-ya Neighbors:

Can't for the life of me figure what's happened to this town, or its people.

No one seems to care about losing the railroad, for one thing. They might change their minds if they'd stop and think what a blow it's gonna be just to the lumbering industry along the line.

And then there's the youth center. Folks were hot and heavy for one—even raised enough money to build it. Now, the youth center project is gasping for breath and might even die.

It appears folks are too busy thinkin' about themselves to give a hang about things that might help the future.

It's a cryin' shame, that's what it is!

And I thank you,
Mr. Maconian

The Weather

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

	High	Low	Rain
Wed., 10th	81	51	.00
Thursday	83	53	.00
Friday	86	55	.00
Saturday	87	58	.00
Sunday	86	48	.00
Monday	84	45	.00
Tuesday	87	50	.00
Wednesday	—	45	.00

	High	Low	Rain
Wed., 10th	79	52	.00
Thursday	80	50	.00
Friday	80	49	.00
Saturday	83	53	.00
Sunday	85	45	.00
Monday	80	43	.00
Tuesday	82	47	.00
Wednesday	86	42	.00

	High	Low	Rain
Wed., 10th	75	56	.00
Thursday	78	50	.00
Friday	78	49	.00
Saturday	80	56	.00
Sunday	76	47	.00
Monday	78	45	.00
Tuesday	82	53	.00
Wednesday	—	49	.00

* no record.



Doug Pearson



Ronnie Henson

Two Franklin High rising seniors, Doug Pearson and Ronnie Henson, this week are in Chapel Hill attending the annual Boys' State. They are being sponsored by the American Legion. Doug is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Pearson. Ronnie's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Henson.