



State Allocates \$520,500 For Secondary Roads Here



FLASH FLOODS seemed to be the rule here last week, rather than the exception. Folks just looked up and commented laconically, "Here comes another one."

NORTH CAROLINA is sure doing some highway butchering. As of the 13th, highway traffic deaths totaled 575, exactly 100 more than for the prior year.

A LITTLE MORE cooperation between all businesses engaged in meeting the traveling public would keep more visitors here. A who-cares attitude serves only to run people out of town. A Let-me-go-out-of-the-way-to-help-you attitude will convince travelers this is a friendly town and they'll want to stay overnight. On the average, each car stopping overnight will leave \$25 and \$30 here.

THERE'S A parking meter in town that gives two hours for a penny. If all of them were that considerate there wouldn't be so much opposition to their use.

CAMERON LEE, who is well-known here, has been named chief engineer of the State Highway Commission. He is a former chief engineer of the 14th division and has been in Raleigh for more than a year as assistant director of state highways.

JACK GRIBBLE says we've always had a Lost Bridge. Now we've got a Lost Culvert.

A. G. CAGLE, master restaurateur, opened his new restaurant on US 23-441 Monday morning with breakfast. He's really got a beautiful place, with plenty of class. It's a credit to the community.

A LOT OF folks predicted immediate financial ruin for Paul Carpenter's new motel because it is so far from town. It must be a nice way to go broke because he's been full every night since he opened.

ALL THIS weather must have a name: Maybe "Dog Days" or something like that. Something surely is responsible.

RED STOCKINGS are the vogue in town with the Junior Woman's Club. They'll stage their "Red Stocking Revue" the last of the month.

DID YOU SEE the little amphibian airplane land at the airport one day last week? One fellow wanted to know if it landed on the river.

STILL THINK the county should put that colored drinking fountain in operation. Or maybe it's the town's responsibility.

THEY MADE IT!

Cloggers Are Back From West Coast

Macon County's Smoky Mountain Cloggers returned Saturday from a western tour that saw them score solidly in both the movies and television.

The new famous dance team was booked by Hal Kemp, a Hollywood N. B. C. executive, for an appearance in a fall color spectacular, "The Roy Rogers Show." They'll be flown back to the coast for this appearance.

While auditioning for MGM, they did an encore for three famous movie personalities, who were working on nearby movie sets—Frank Sinatra, Gene Kelly, and Donald O'Connor.

Just Three Weeks

It was just three weeks ago that the Cloggers, their manager, Mrs. Lois Roberson, their band, and talent scout Bob Cox headed for the west coast to see if they could take Hollywood by storm.

Mrs. Roberson figures the young dancers "gained in experience and knowledge equal to a year of school" and, in addition,

gave Macon County at least "\$50,000 worth of free publicity." Everywhere they stopped she reports, the first question asked was, "Where are you from?"

Were They Liked?

How did the rest of the country react to the Cloggers as they worked their way across the country by dancing. A rancher in Lordsburg, New Mex., gave them a free two-day vacation on his 100,000-acre ranch; they were non-paying guests at "The Dunes" in Las Vegas, Nev., where Frankie Lane was featured; and while in Las Vegas, Ed Sullivan heard they were there, called them in to renew old friendships, and assured them he would have them back on his show again soon.

They visited the Alamo, the Court of the Two Sisters in New Orleans, saw a bull fight in Juarez, Mexico, saw Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico, the Sequoyah and Yosemite National Parks, the Petrified Forest, and the Painted Desert. Oh yes, and a big heaping of Hollywood.

MEETING ANDREWS —

Little League All-Stars Play Today In Andrews

Franklin's Little League All-Stars will play Andrews, in Andrews, today (Thursday) at 4 p. m., in the first round of the 1959 Little League Mountain Area Tournament.

Sylvia will play the winner of this game tomorrow at 4 p. m. in Andrews.

Saturday at 4 p. m., the winner of the second round will play the

winner of the Waynesville-Carson game for the championship. This game also will be held in Andrews. The area champion will then go to Shelby for the District 1 championship.

Players for the local team were selected on the basis of playing ability. They are Owen Reagan Ammons, Thomas Rich Crawford, Dan Robert Reynolds, and Gary Mack Shields, of the Thunderbirds; Larry Ross Cloer, Dennis Gerald Holland, and Andrew Parker Norton, Jr., of the Reddys; Robert Edward Dalton, Donald Woody Fisher, and Hugh Albert Rogers Franklin, of the Wildcats; Ben Pryor Grant, Dennis Melvin Houston, Raymond Lee Jones, and Terry Fred Mashburn, of the Jaybirds.

Managing the team are the Rev. Earl T. Crowe, Jr., and Joe Wilson.

Special Tourist Section Planned

A special tourist section, "Rubies, Recreation, and Rest," will be included in next week's issue (July 30) of THE FRANKLIN PRESS.

About 1,500 extra copies of eight-page section will be printed. These will be given to advertisers in the section for distribution as they see fit.

While all facets of Macon County's complex tourist world will be covered in the edition, heavy emphasis is being placed on ruby mining in famed Cowee Valley since this is the only place short of India where rubies are found and the only place in the world where anyone with a dollar bill and a penchant for a little work can look for stones.



FAIR CATALOGUES HAVE BEEN MAILED TO MACONIANS. Catalogues for the '59 Macon County Fair went into the mails Tuesday and Maconians are now thumbing through them. Mailing was handled by extension service personnel. Shown preparing a mailing are (L to R) Agricultural Agent T. H. Fagg, Mrs. Pauline Houston, office secretary, and Bryan Anders, assistant agent. The fair is set for August 6-7-8. (Staff Photo)

Folk Festival Dates Selected

August 13-14-15 are the dates set for the annual Macon County Folk Festival.

As in the past, the Jaycee-sponsored mountain entertainment show will be held "under the stars" in the Franklin High stadium.

A Jaycee committee making arrangements for the festival includes the Rev. Donn K. Langfitt, chairman, Alfred Higdon, Bob Bryson, and Dr. J. L. Hill, Jr.

'Tourist Night' For Dancing

This Saturday night will be "Tourist Night" at the weekly square dance sponsored by the Jaycees at Slagle Memorial Building.

Jaycees President R. M. Biddle, Jr., said the dance caller, Henry Wilkie, assisted by others, will give free instructions in dancing to visitors so they can join in the fun.

Dancing will begin at 8 o'clock with music by the Cumberland Mountaineers. Bob Moore, who is in charge of the dance project, reports the activity is "a growing thing" and that larger crowds are attending each Saturday. The weekly dance was started by the Jaycees this summer as a civic venture to provide entertainment for visitors and local people alike.

AT FRANKLIN CHURCH — African Quartet, Speaker To Kick-Off Methodist Missionary Program

The Waynesville District Methodist churches will have a kickoff session at the First Methodist Church here Monday night at 8 o'clock.

The emphasis for the year is Africa and appearing on the program will be a native African quartet, "The Ambassadors," and a speaker, the Rev. Lester Griffith, who was a prisoner of the Algerian rebels for 49 days.

The quartet's program will be a varied one. The emphasis will be on African folk music, especially the songs of the Mashona Tribes people of southern Rhodesia, home of the quartet members. Inherently musical, the African people do much of their daily work to song. These everyday work songs will be a part of the program. The quartet also will sing African lullabies, wedding and festival songs, hymns, and chants. Western hymns and songs also will be included. They will bring various African musical instruments and will demonstrate their use. The quartet will sing and drum in the garb of witch-doctors and in the animal skin garments that African villagers like to wear on festive occasions. The quartet's tour of 19 states is sponsored by the Rhodesia Methodist Annual Conference, in collaboration with the Methodist Board of Missions.

Dr. Griffith, a young Methodist missionary, whose merican home is Cleveland, Ohio, returned to the United States last October, shortly after he was released unharmed by the Algerian rebels. He has served in Algeria five years as a literary teacher and social worker. On August 18, Mr. Griffith was taken prisoner by a rebel commando group while he was on the way from Algiers to his home at Fort National in the Atlas mountains. He is believed to be the only American to have been a prisoner of the Algerian rebels for so long a time, since the recent nationalist conflict began in 1954.

PENLAND REUNION

The annual Penland family reunion will be held Sunday, August 2, at the Robert M. Penland Center, west of Hayesville. It is being sponsored by a number of Penland families. A number of Penland families are expected to attend. All Penland families are invited to come and bring a picnic lunch.

Chief Quits His Job

Police Chief Sid Carter has resigned and is now working out his notice.

He has been on the Franklin force for the past 25 months.

A new officer, Bruce Rowland, has been employed by the town to replace Nelson Ledford, who was relieved of duty the first of the month. Officer Homer Cochran is working part-time until a man can be hired to take his place.

Chief Carter said the recent shake-up in the police department did not influence his decision to resign. He has no immediate plans for the future.

Team Plays

Franklin's Babe Ruth All-Stars last (Wednesday) night played Beacon in division play-offs at McCormick Field in Asheville.

Outcome of the game was not known at press time.

The winner of the Franklin-Beacon game is scheduled to play the winner of the Asheville-Brevard game.

On the All-Star team are Ronnie Higdon, Jimmy Williams, Tommy Kiser, Morris Davis, John Swan, Sonny Burrell, Ronnie Mashburn, L. T. Gibson, George Tallent, Larry Franklin, Jimmy Cabe, Alex Corbin, Steve Heafner, David Simpson, and Bill Plyler.



CASE OF THE DISAPPEARING CULVERT SOLVED

Where's the culvert they're building at the foot of town hill? It's under water and that strip of concrete peeping up through the moisture is one end of it. A flash flood Wednesday of last week dumped 2.36 inches on Franklin in a matter of about an hour or so and "Frogtown Branch" rose and covered the culvert. Workmen had to close the detour road for several hours while the water receded. (Staff Photo)

An allocation of \$520,500 has been set up for Macon County for the 1959-60 fiscal year for maintenance and construction work on its secondary road system.

Figures received this week from the State Highway Commission in Raleigh break the allocation into two parts, one for maintenance and the other for construction. The amount for maintenance is \$199,000 and for construction, \$321,500.

Abandons Job Here

The State Highway Commission's planning board has decided to abandon plans for extending US 23-441 south from the south Franklin city limits near A. R. Higdon's to US 64 near George Reece's store.

In a memorandum letter to Mayor W. C. Burrell and the 14th division engineer, F. L. Hutchison, the commission's new chief engineer, C. W. Lee, explained:

Bad Intersection

"This decision was reached due to the bad intersection that would be created at US 64, particularly since the City of Franklin is against making the one-way street system as was originally proposed, using US 64 for eastbound traffic and the street back of the Nantahala Creamery (West Main) for westbound traffic."

"It was also brought out that the primary problem in Franklin was not this section of highway, but was the fact that parking is allowed on both sides of Main Street and this creates the main restriction to the flow of traffic through Franklin."

"I do not recall the width of the existing section of US 23-441 which passes in front of the school, but it appears to me that some improvement of this section is warranted, therefore, that you study this section of the existing highway to determine if improvement is warranted by widening the existing highway, taking out or easing the two bad curves, and to revise the grade line near the school so adequate sight distance is provided for the school entrance."

Working On Plans

Macon will receive 1786 per cent of the total allocation of \$42,299,585 for the state's 100 counties. Of the statewide total \$18,000,000 is set aside for road construction according to the secondary road plan of each county, which is now being worked up. The remaining \$24,299,585 is earmarked for maintenance of the state's 58,000-mile secondary road network.

Basis of Need

Harold Makepeace, secondary roads officer, said the \$18,000,000 allocation was distributed on the basis of each county's relative need as determined by a comprehensive study of all unpaved rural secondary roads in the state. The survey, which was conducted during the first five months of this year, carried estimates of cost to stabilize every road to minimum standards and the cost to pave those roads serving more than 50 vehicles per day. Such costs in each county were totaled and compared with costs in all other counties to secure a percentage of need for each county, he explained. Allocations were made strictly on the percentage of need in the county compared with total state-wide need. Thus, a county with one per cent of the state's need was given one per cent of the \$18,000,000 available.

Under the allocation method, Wilkes County, with 3.8 per cent of the state's need, received the largest construction appropriation, \$608,900. Several counties received more than \$400,000 for road construction, including Guilford, Randolph, Ashe, and Buncombe. Burke County came closest to having a "average need" for new construction with 1.01 per cent of the state need. Burke's share of the \$18,000,000 was \$183,400. New Hanover County, with less than 20 miles of unpaved roads, got the smallest construction allotment.

SEE NO. 1, PAGE 6

COMING BACK SATURDAY — 27 4-H Clubbers Are In Raleigh

In Monday's dawn hours? 27 4-H clubbers and their leaders were out on a sleepless night for Raleigh and "State 4-H Club Week."

Included in the Macon County delegation are members of the Carson Cloggers, the local dance team, and the "Red Stocking Revue." The "Red Stocking Revue" will be in the tractor events, and Patsy Corbin, Mountain Grove, will be in the state dress review.

Those making the trip were Brenda Cunningham, Suzanne Cunningham, Sandra Norton, Robert Ehler, David Ehler, Patsy Corbin, Sandra Henson, Spike Maddox, Dennis Brock-Hire, Peggy Dills, Jan Dills, Steve Cabe, Kenneth Reynolds, Robert Vinson, Elizabeth Ann Ammons, Sally Moore, Diane Clay, Jewel Fox, Ronnie Waldroup, Raymond Shepherd, Margaret Cowart, Eddie Moses, Gary Phillips, Jimmy Shook, Mary Jo Waldroup, Lowell Crawford, and Bill Dills.

Leaders going included Mrs. J. F. Cunningham, manager of the Carson Cloggers, Mrs. Florence S. Sherrill, home economics agent, and Kenneth Perry, assistant agricultural agent.

Macon's group will return here Saturday.

The Weather

Table with weather forecasts for Franklin and Highlands. Columns include High, Low, and Rain. Rows list days from Wednesday to Wednesday.