

ON THE INSIDE —

Students of THE...
he inside page...
with friends and...
the inside...
to bottom are...
you'll know about County.



NO ONE can complain that nothing ever happens here if they happened to be around over the week end; storms, wrecks, fires, and other happenings made it circus-like.

WE TAKE back that blurb about the state fixing the drainage problem at the foot of Town Hill. The repairs just made the water puddle elsewhere. Help!

A LOT OF rubber was burned off back tires by motorists spinning out of icy parking places on the Main Street Monday. A lot of free parking went on also at meters frozen up.

A SNOWMAN to beat all was sculptured Monday by Arthur Hays and Bill Garrison. It was a remarkable likeness of Abe Lincoln, quite appropriate since "Honest Abe's" birthday is this month.

A BIG PAT on the back should go to radio station WFSC for the excellent job it did keeping the public informed of road conditions and the like during the week end storm.

A NEW traffic light, recently authorized by the town, was installed Tuesday by the power company at the intersection of Palmer and Maple. This is a welcome addition and should slow down some of the speeding on that end of town.

CHALK THIS up in your meanest man" file: Someone swiped three chain saws during Sunday's fire at Auto Parts and Equipment Company. They had been "rescued" from the fire.

SCHOOL CHILDREN made the most of the unscheduled holidays Monday and Tuesday and were very much in evidence in the business section.

FROM ALL the building that is going on, business appears to be really on the upswing, doesn't it? Many more will spring up between now and summer, if the rumor mill is correct.

what's doing?

JAYCEES: First and third Mondays, 6:30 p. m., Cagle's Restaurant on US 23-441 south.
ROTARY: Every Thursday, 7 p. m., Slagle Memorial Building.
LIONS: Second and fourth Mondays, 7 p. m., Slagle Memorial Building.

JUNIOR WOMAN'S CLUB: Fourth Monday, 7:30 p. m., Agricultural Building.
V. F. W.: Second and fourth Wednesdays, 8 p. m., V. F. W. Post Home on Palmer Street.

AMERICAN LEGION: Third Tuesday, 7:30 p. m., Slagle Memorial Building.

Sunday, 2 p. m. meeting of Franklin Youth Center Association, Presbyterian church.
Wednesday, county-wide P.T.A. workshop at Union School.

so says "MR. MACONIAN"

Hi-ya Neighbors:

Would you give a feller a piece of string and tell him to use it for a fly swatter?

Well sir, that's about the situation firemen faced Sunday afternoon in trying to put out that big fire with no water pressure.

If a fire of that size had happened on Main Street there's no doubt that Franklin would be minus half its business district right now; or they'd still be fighting to save the whole town!

This water problem is long past the serious stage and most folks don't give a hoot if it comes from a pumping station or a watershed so long as they've got ample water to protect their homes and businesses.

And I thank you,
Mr. Maconian



ANGEL WINNER OF BEST PLAYER TROPHY

Panther "Butch" Angel is the winner of the V. F. W. "Most Valuable Player" football award. Picked for the honor by his teammates, he received the trophy from Principal Harry C. Corbin Wednesday night of last week as a feature of the Rotary-sponsored football banquet. Standing in the background are Panther Coach Dick Stott (left) and U.N.C. Coach Jim Hickey, who was guest speaker. A story and more pictures may be found on front page of the second section.

(Staff Photo)

STATE BOARD OFFICIAL COMING —

Engineer Requests Meeting To Iron Out Differences Of Opinion On Water Survey

A meeting to iron out some differences of opinion on proposed solutions to Franklin's water problem has been suggested by a representative of the Harwood Beebe Company, municipal and civil engineers of Spartanburg, S. C.

In a letter to the Franklin Board of Aldermen, Russell A. McCoy, Jr., calls attention to the story appearing in last week's PRESS concerning a Wayah watershed proposal outlined by local engineers H. H. Plemmons and Russell Cabe and suggests:

"Since there seems to be a difference of opinion as to the minimum flows to be expected from Wayah and also the cost of installing the facilities necessary to supply potable water to the Town of Franklin, it would appear

that the town would be benefited if a meeting could be arranged between the town's engineers, Messrs. Plemmons and Cabe (Editor's note: They are not town engineers, but prepared the Wayah survey on their own time and without compensation), and a representative of the State Board of Health to discuss the overall picture from a strictly engineering standpoint."

Town Clerk Ray Swafford said the town already has requested the appearance of a representative of the State Board of Health and that a meeting will be arranged as soon as possible.

Mr. McCoy, in his letter, assured, "This office has no bias in the matter, as is indicated in the editorial appearing in the issue mentioned above. It is our

sole concern to assure the Town of Franklin a satisfactory supply of potable water at reasonable cost and it is to this end that our efforts are exerted."

Harwood Beebe is the firm that prepared the proposed Cartoogay Creek filter and pumping station project for the town several years ago.

MEETING CHANGED

The Methodist Men's Club meeting has been changed from the Hickory Knoll Methodist Church to the Franklin Methodist Church, with the Iota community serving the meal for the "ladies' night" affair. Set for Tuesday night at 7 o'clock, the featured speaker will be the Rev. Rollin Gibbs, of Statesville.

LITTLE TROUBLE REPORTED —

First Snow Wallops County

Although it fared considerably better than most other counties in the western area, Macon County got a bitter taste of the storm that swept the country over the week end.

The season's first heavy snow fell Friday, with about two and a half inches in the Franklin area. Some of the snow melted Saturday morning under a warming blanket of air, but before long this temporary relief moved out and Saturday afternoon and night added another inch of snow to the existing blanket. Then, at night fall, the temperature took a nose dive and high-

ways turned into icy sheets, cutting the county off from the rest of the area. Some motorists managed to get out Sunday using chains, but most preferred to stay at home and hope for better weather.

Services Hurt

Sunday church services experienced sharp decreases in attendance and at least two Franklin

congregations, the Methodist and Baptists, joined forces and held a joint worship service at the First Baptist Church.

With rural roads still icy, schools were closed Monday by Supt. H. Bueck. A reading of four above zero Monday morning and little improvement during the day kept most of the rural roads in

SEE NO. 1, PAGE 8



'HONEST ABE' Lincoln was in the neighborhood near Franklin High Monday and Tuesday before melting back into history again. Johnny and Billy Garrison and Arthur Hays made a striking snow likeness of the great American in Arthur's yard.

WORKSHOP FOR P.-T.A.S IS SLATED

County-wide Event Set Wednesday At Union

With a theme of "Improving Instruction Through Parent Participation", Macon County's annual Parent and Family Life Education Study Course is set for next Wednesday, February 24, at Union Elementary School.

A number of speakers are slated to appear on the program, which will run from 9:30 a. m. to 2:30 p. m.

At the morning session, W. B. Birc, former president of Western Carolina College, will speak on ability grouping.

A panel discussion on cooperation between home and school in working toward their mutual goal of developing well-adjusted and well-educated children is set for the afternoon session.

The panel will be made up of local people representing various P.T.A.'s throughout the county.

A nursery will be operated at the school to care for young children of mothers who could not otherwise attend.

Lunch will be served in the school cafeteria.

Those planning to attend are requested to make reservations not later than February 22 by telephone Union School, LA 4-2346.

Symphony Drive Is Over Quota

Music definitely is coming to Macon County this spring.

Mrs. H. Bueck, chairman of the local chapter of the N. C. Symphony Society, this week announced that the membership drive here has topped its \$980 quota, assuring the appearance of the North Carolina Symphony orchestra on March 9.

Tickets purchased by individuals and firms during the drive are now being mailed out, she said. Anyone failing to receive one should get in touch with Mrs. Bueck or Mrs. Grover Schafer.

Directed by Dr. Benjamin Swalin, the orchestra will give two performances here. A special matinee concert has been arranged for school children and the regular concert will be held at night.

Tenor Walter Carringer, who is hailed as outstanding among America's young singers, will be soloist.

Franklin Girls Smother Webster In First Clash

The Franklin High girls basketball team smothered Webster 91-20 Monday night (February 15) in first round competition in the Smoky Mountain Conference Eastern Division Tournament at Cherokee.

The Franklin boys team was set for first tournament action against Cherokee last (Wednesday) night, but scores for this game were not available at press time.

The Franklin lassies, in the Monday night win over Webster, started five forwards hitting in double figures.

With the defense of Franklin's guards matching the unflinching accuracy of the forwards, the one-sided halftime score was Franklin 50-10.

SEE NO. 3, PAGE 4

LAMBASTS FEBRUARY 2 BELIEVERS — Mountain Groundhog Forecasts Early Spring, Other '60 Happenings

Groundhog: "Man, is it good to see someone who realizes that 'Valentine's Day' also is 'Groundhog Day'. We groundhogs are a romantic lot and the characters who changed it to February 2 ought to be..."

Reporter: "Look, my crystal-gazing friend, I'm with you on that 'Valentine's Day' jazz. Our paper's been called everything for not conforming to the 2nd, but what I'm really here for is your annual forecast. Okay?"

Groundhog: "Shoot son, I'm sharp enough with the answers to be on an unriggered quiz program."

Reporter: "First off, did you



BILLowing SMOKE and snaking fire hoses dominated Sunday afternoon in Franklin when fire of unknown origin gutted Auto Parts and Equipment Company on Palmer Street. For more pictures of this spectacular blaze, turn to the inside. (Staff Photo)

HAMPERED BY LOW PRESSURE — Firemen Of Three Towns Battle Fire In Franklin

Fire Was After Frank Henry

By some strange twist of fate, fire was looking for Frank L. Henry, Jr. Sunday afternoon.

About 2:15, at virtually the same time fire was consuming his auto parts business in Franklin, Mr. Henry and his son, Lt. Frank L. Henry, III, an Army pilot, had a close brush with fire.

They were in the infield at the Daytona International Speedway when a speeding racer's gasoline tank broke and flames rocketed from it.

The driver cut the burning car into the infield. It roared past the two Henrys, spewing fire. Mr. Henry threw a news paper he was carrying in front of his face for protection. Lt. Henry, unprotected, had the hair singed on his arm.

Youth Center Officer Vote Slated Sunday

An election of new officers for the Franklin Youth Center Association is scheduled for 2 p. m. Sunday at the Presbyterian church.

The president, Dr. G. R. McSwain, urges all parents and teenagers to turn out for the meeting.

Hampered by low water pressure and a stiff and freezing wind, volunteer firemen from three towns for more than three hours battled a Sunday afternoon fire that gutted a Franklin automobile parts firm.

A team of forty local firemen, aided by firemen and equipment from Clayton, Ga., and Sylva, kept the fire from spreading into another section of the building as flames had raced unchecked through Auto Parts and Equipment large concrete block building is Company.

Frank L. Henry, Jr., and C. E. Henry, partners in time before being discovered, the auto parts firm, conservatively set the loss at \$25,000. The scene about 2:15 found the inside thick with smoke. The intense heat already had cracked the building.

How the fire started in the... SEE NO. 4, PAGE 4

SKUNKS STILL THERE — Fulcher's Cry Of 'Help' Is Growing More Feeble

Bart Fulcher's cry of "help" is becoming more feeble by the day.

He's losing his war with a colony of skunks that has taken over things under his house.

Traps set by Mr. Fulcher have bagged two adult skunks, but he says more are hiding out. "We can hear them playing under there at night," he assures, "and, of course, there's

the smell that is unmistakably skunk.

Farther, he's now to get rid of the creatures.

But, maybe he won't have to after all. His family seems to be slowly growing accustomed to the loathly scent.

"Doesn't smell near as bad as it used to," Mr. Fulcher says, "you reckon we're just getting used to it?"



Bart Fulcher (gasp) and (gasp) skunk

SEE NO. 2, PAGE 4