



A CHRISTMAS gift of 12 albums of records has been given to the Macon County School System by Mrs. Clarence Henry. They are for the use of all schools. Could this be the start of a record library for the system?

WEEMAR JONES' book, "My Affair with a Weekly", got an excellent review in December's SATURDAY REVIEW.

CHRISTMAS decorations on Main Street got a boost this week with the hanging of a Santa and reindeer display near the power company building by the Jaycees. Wayne Proffitt's vocational agriculture boys made the figures for the Jaycees, Claude Leatherman put them up, and Jaycees Grady Corbin was project chairman.

WOULDN'T be at all surprised if we have a white Christmas this year. All this pretty weather is bound to be leading up to something.

MAIN STREET has a 'possum. It showed up Friday night in a garbage can at "Dixie Hall." He was captured and put in a basket, but somehow managed to escape. Saturday night he was treed near Pendergrass Store by a dog. Anyone seen him lately?

THAT'S A good idea the grand jury had about holding an election to see how folks stand on building a new courthouse. However, we wouldn't advise holding your breath until it comes to pass.

LOOK FOR most of the organizations participating in United Fund to come around for more donations since U.F. failed to make it this year. They still must have some money to operate on.

THAT PROPOSED rate increase by Nantahala Power has changed the Christmas plans of a lot of folks to purchase electric blankets.

COLD WEATHER sure does freeze up (chuckle) those avaricious parking meters (chuckle), making them give free (chuckle) time.

TAKE HEED to the wise words about holiday driving passed on by Highway Patrolman H. T. Ferguson. The undertakers, too, would appreciate a Christmas vacation.

RIGHT NOW is a good time to start compiling your New Year's resolutions. There's plenty of time between now and the first of the year to test them and see if you really want to make them in the first place.

MORE THAN one child was confused by more than one Santa Claus in town Saturday. Talked to the confusion, WFSC added to Santa at the North Pole about the same time he was in Belk's patting little kids on the head.

what's doing?

JAYCEES: First Monday, Zickgraf's Lumber Co., Third Monday, Dillard House, Dillard, Ga., 7:00 p. m.

ROTARY: Every Thursday, 6:30 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.P.W. Post Home on Palmer Street.

V.F.W. AUXILIARY: Second Monday night, 8 p. m., at post home.

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

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB: Fourth Tuesday at 7 p. m., at the Normandie.



SPREADING SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER

Members of the Franklin Lions Club distributed baskets of food valued at \$400 over the week end to needy families in the county. Funds for this project are raised with the club's dime board, which operates on Saturdays. Lion J. C. Clark, chairman, hopes the board will bring in at least \$100 this Saturday. This amount is needed to break even. Also, a committee under the chairmanship of Lion Lake V. Shope mailed \$5.00 Christmas checks to 29 blind residents. (Staff Photo)

ACTIVITIES LISTED —

Christmas 1960 Is Almost Here

Christmas 1960 is rapidly approaching.

Witness the flurry of shoppers in Franklin; the colorful decorations in homes, on lawns, and at churches and schools; the last minute rehearsals of Christmas plays; the... well, read about what's going on.

Rotary Party
Franklin Rotary Club is holding its annual Christmas

HOLIDAY CLOSING
Local merchants — at least most of them — plan to close Monday for Christmas. Local, state, and federal offices here also will take the day as a holiday.

HOLIDAYS ON
Christmas holidays in the schools of the county started today and the children won't return to their studies until

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party for boys of the county tonight (Thursday) at 7 o'clock. Each Rotarian will bring a boy as his guest for supper and the party afterwards.

Contest Held
Judging of home and business decorations in the Franklin Garden Club's annual Christmas lighting contest was held last (Wednesday) night. Results were not available when the newspaper went to press.

Holidays On
Christmas holidays in the schools of the county started today and the children won't return to their studies until

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Christmas Business? Good, Bad

Christmas business in Franklin?

You may take your pick of any situation from bad to good. This, unfortunately, fails to give an index to business in general. However, that's the way a survey of businesses turned out.

Some report sales below last December; some say they're about the same; and other say business is better than ever.

All merchants, however, whether their business is bad or good, are looking for this Friday and Saturday to either help them break even or put the tinsel on the profits tree.

This past Saturday helped most merchants even things up with December of last year. Shoppers were in town all day in steady numbers.

Library Project Short Of Goal

"Operation Library," the Jaycees sponsored project boosting the Franklin Library, still has not hit its goal of 1,000 books.

Chairman Wilbur Cabe reported this week that 835 books have been donated.

Persons wanting to contribute volumes are asked to leave them at the library.

Antlerless Hunts Yield 76 Deer

Hunters bagged a whopping 76 deer in last week's antlerless hunts on Standing Indian Wildlife Management Area.

The first day, Monday, they got 32. Tuesday they increased the bag with 44.

PATROLMAN MAKES PLEA —

Don't Let Funeral Wreath Replace Holly

"The Yuletide season is a friendly, joyous time of year, so let's keep it that way!"

This is a plea to Maconians from Highway Patrolman H. T. Ferguson, who pointed out this week that North Carolina motorists must take extra safety measures to keep themselves from becoming the victim of some senseless traffic mishaps.

"Hundreds of motorists each Christmas season die violently and needlessly on our highways," the patrolman warned. "The tragic hour by hour accounting of fatalities from the press wire bureaus over the nation tend to take away much of the joy of major holiday

week ends, particularly for those of us working to prevent holiday accidents."

Macon County, the patrolman reminded, added two fatalities to the December toll in 1959. These were the county's only fatalities in 1959.

December traditionally is a deadly month with heavy traffic, misused or misplaced holiday spirit, and bad weather all contributing to a high accident toll.

"Unless we use extra care this year, the funeral wreath will replace the holly wreath in many homes," Patrolman Ferguson declared. "That's a pretty grim forecast to make, but the facts can't be denied."



'TASTING TEA' HELD FOR NEW BOOK

A "Tasting Tea" featuring cookies and punch from the new cookbook prepared by Macon home demonstration club women was held Saturday from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. at the Agricultural Building. The cookbook also was put on sale for the first time and is selling well, particularly as a Christmas gift. Club women are shown serving some visitors during the day. (Staff Photo)

— CRIMINAL DISPOSITIONS LISTED —

Superior Court Leaves Generous 'Christmas Present' For Schools

An \$11,000.40 "Christmas present" is under the tree for the Macon County School System.

The generous giver? The December term of Superior Court. As usual, School Supt. H. Bueck says he won't have any trouble spending the money.

A breakdown of court items earmarked by law for the schools includes fines, \$5,608.35; forfeitures, \$4,905; solicitor fees, \$403.20; jury taxes, \$20; and highway patrol fees, \$63.85.

The December term officially ended Saturday after recessing Monday of last week because of lack of civil cases. Judge William K. McLean presided the first week, hearing criminal actions. Judge Zeb V. Nettles was on the bench Monday of last week for four divorce actions.

Following are the criminal dispositions:

William Abel Smith, Jr., speeding, carrying concealed weapon, called and failed, since defendant is non-resident, state takes nol pros with leave. Verdict of not guilty as to the charge of carrying a concealed weapon.

John Robert Jones, driving drunk, judgment absolute on bond to be discharged on payment of \$200, nol pros with leave as to case.

Carl Story, fraud and pretense, 4 to 6 years suspended on court conditions.

Porter James Arnold, aiding and abetting in driving drunk, judgment absolute on the bond to be discharged on payment of \$200, nol pros with leave as to the case.

Frank Greenwood, bastardy, alias capias issued.

James Robert Higdon, abandonment, alias capias issued.

Mack Dills, abandonment, alias capias issued.

Voyle Clements, assault, alias capias issued.

Howard Hooper, driving drunk, no operator's license, alias capias issued.

Edward Buckner, improper operator and chauffeur's license, nol pros with leave.

Claude H. Sanders, drunk, transporting and possession of non-tax paid liquor, and resisting arrest, continued, defendant now in the federal penitentiary.

Ruby Lee Stanfield, improper use of operator's license, nol pros with leave.

Frank Hannah, assault, since the institution of this action, the defendant has died, thereupon the action abates.

Pauline Bradley Parker, reckless driving, nol pros with leave.

Eldon Garner Cabe, driving drunk (2nd offense), nol pros with leave.

John Terney Anderson, driver. SEE NO. 2, PAGE 12

GAME HERE TONIGHT — Cagers Change Partners; Girls Win, Boys Lose

Franklin High's basketballers changed partners in games this week, the girls winning both games and the boys dividing theirs. It was the reverse last week.

Friday night on the home court, the girls downed Cherokee 75 to 66 and the boys won handily 61 to 47. Tuesday night, however, the boys lost here to Swain High 55 to 44. The girls won 70 to 61.

This week's game with Murphy on the home court has been moved up to tonight

(Thursday). The girls will play at 7:30 and the boys following.

Franklin-Cherokee Girls Game

Cherokee (66) F—Standingdeer 4, Washington 29, Walkinstick 33, Bradley; G—Smith, Crowe, Swimmer, Saunook.

Franklin (75) F—Cabe 33, Carpenter 21, Leatherman 19, Stockton 2; G—Bowman, Fox, Houston, Angel.

Halftime: 42-37, Franklin.

Boys Game

Cherokee (47)—Beck 18, Johnson 6, Arneach 5, Sneed 12, Smith 4.

Franklin (61)—Baird 17, Burrell, Cabe 2, Simpson 2, Justice 2, L. Cabe, Higdon 23, Williams 15, D. Franklin, Swan, J. Franklin, Hall.

Halftime: 24-17, Franklin.

Franklin-Swain Girls Game

Swain (97) F—McCracken 17, Sossamon 33, Cassada 3, Moore 8; G—Sutton, Welch, Robinson, Laney, Pittillo.

Franklin (70) F—Cabe 30, Carpenter 17, Leatherman 16, Myers 7; G—Bowman, Fox, Houston, Angel.

Halftime: 38-34, Franklin.

Boys Game

Swain (55) Wake 11, Harding 4, Arneach 4, Brintnall 30, Mincey 6.

Franklin (44) Baird 20, Simpson, Justice, Higdon 7, Williams 13, Franklin 2, Hall, Corbin 2.

Halftime: 26-18 Swain.

For Children

A children's service will be held Friday night at 7:30 at St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church.

On Christmas Day, a celebration of Holy Communion will be held at 8 a. m.

Road Work For Month Announced

November road work in Macon County has been listed as follows by 14th Highway Division Engineer Frank Hutchison:

Strengthened were Cowee Tower Road, 0.8 mile; Roller Mill Road, 0.6; Holly Springs Road, 0.8; Rickman Creek Road, 1.2 miles; Noah Gibson Road, 0.7; Mason Branch Road, 0.6; Thomas Road, 0.3; and Lumley Road, 0.3.

Chorus Sings

A program of Christmas carols by the Franklin High School Chorus featured Thursday night's meeting of the Franklin Music Study Club in the assembly room of the Methodist church.

Hostesses for the meeting were Mrs. Gilmer A. Jones and Miss Elsie Hayes.

— FAVOR 'REASONABLE' ONE —

Customers Think Power Rate Increase Too High

Practically everyone thinks Nantahala Power and Light Company is entitled to a rate increase, but not one as large as it requests.

Out of some 40 to 50 Maconians interviewed this week, not one voiced any objections to a "reasonable" increase. After all, most of them pointed out, Nantahala hasn't had a general rate boost in 30 years and operating costs certainly have risen since World War II.

They set this "reasonable" rate at anywhere between 16 and 15 per cent. Anything over that they're against.

"This business of nearly doubling rates is ridiculous," declared one customer. "I certainly couldn't double the price of my eggs and corn and expect to get away with it!"

Nantahala Power has petitioned the N.C. Utilities Commission for an increase that would raise its gross income annually to more than a million dollars and its net income by \$460,000. This would mean an increase of some 31 per cent to the average residential customer, the company estimates. However, residential users who heat with electricity would find their costs going from \$4.9 per cent up.

Meanwhile, opposition to the proposed increase is mounting daily in the area

served by Nantahala.

Although still in the talking stage in Franklin and Sylva, businessmen of both towns say they'll be ready with organized resistance when the utilities commission holds its hearing. This is expected to be some time in the early spring. Also present in the Franklin area is a groundswell of opposition from residents using electrical heat.

Swain County already has taken definite steps and is investigating the feasibility of obtaining T.V.A. power.

In a resolution adopted last week, the Swain County Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9281 opposed the increase on the grounds that "it is entirely out of reason for Nantahala to expect a 30 per cent increase in rates and that it is believed that T.V.A. can adequately supply power to Swain County at a much cheaper rate."

Methodists in Bryson City also are in a dilemma. They're building a new church and are faced with the problem of heating. Originally they planned to use electricity, but the proposed increase would raise their annual heating bill from \$600 to about \$1,100, they report.

Many Maconians erecting new homes also are changing plans for heating. Some interesting theories al-

so are being advanced locally: "That's exactly what they want us to do, protest it," one businessman theorized this week. "Then we will be down on Nantahala and will be in favor of Duke going ahead and buying the company. It will make Duke look good."

Another figures Duke Power actually is behind the request for a rate increase. "This increase Nantahala is requesting is slightly higher than Duke's schedule. Now, the utilities commission will come along and cut the request to where it is in line with Duke's rates, Duke will go ahead and purchase Nantahala, and we'll have to go along with it. You know Duke's president (W. B. McGuire) told us (at a Rotary meeting several months ago) that Duke had no plans for upping rates when they purchased Nantahala... of course not! That way they're letting Nantahala get the rate increase for them before the sale goes through."

T.V.A. power is the answer to the problem says another. "We're in a T.V.A. area, so why shouldn't we enjoy the low rates they offer? They've got the right idea over in Bryson City..."

Still another is against T.V.A.—"You know what happens when government takes over," he warned.

Poles Take A Beating In Wrecks

Telephone poles took a beating this week in Franklin, but nevertheless got in some good licks on the attacking automobiles.

Sunday night about 11:10, a '57 Chevrolet driven by Fred Leslie Nichols, Jr., 22, of Route 1, clipped a pole on NC 28 just inside the city limits. Highway Patrolman H. T. Ferguson, who lives near the scene of the accident, investigated the wreck of the south-bound car and charged the driver with drunk driving and reckless driving.

Monday night, shortly before 10 o'clock, a speeding '56 Buick being chased by a Georgia Highway Patrol cruiser failed to make a curve on US 28-441 south just inside the city limits, went out of control and knocked out a four-foot section of a telephone pole, along with other smaller objects, like street signs and mail boxes. A passenger, Donald Hodgens, who went through the windshield, was hospitalized with a broken arm and cuts and bruises. The driver, Jack Ramey, of the Cartoogachay section, fled the scene of the accident, but was found shortly before midnight, walking up US 64 at the Baird Cove Road. Uninjured, he was "jailed." The two Georgia troopers pursuing the Ramey car said their speeds exceeded 100 m.p.h. several times during the hair-raising chase from outside of Clayton, where they took up the chase of the speeding Ramey car. The troopers estimated the Buick was doing nearly 100 when the driver lost control. Charges of speeding and reckless driving are being lodged against Ramey in both North Carolina and Georgia.

THE WEATHER

The week's temperature and rainfall, below are recorded in Franklin by Manson Stiles, U.S. weather observer; in Highlands by Tutor 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
Wed., Dec. 14	51	8	00
Thursday	40	30	00
Friday	38	28	00
Saturday	49	12	00
Sunday	48	10	00
Monday	51	11	00
Tuesday	43	20	00
Wednesday	—	32	36

COWETA			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Dec. 14	41	8	00
Thursday	49	10	trace
Friday	40	25	00
Saturday	40	11	00
Sunday	48	11	00
Monday	45	13	00
Tuesday	53	19	00
Wednesday	44	25	61

HIGHLANDS			
	High	Low	Rain
Wed., Dec. 14	45	17	*
Thursday	38	31	*
Friday	31	18	*
Saturday	40	20	*
Sunday	40	16	*
Monday	40	23	*
Tuesday	34	32	*
Wednesday	—	20	snow

* no record
**rain and snow