

It Happened This Week

More Relief Funds Assembly Cuts Costs Five Tar Heels Held Road Contracts Let Traffic Deaths Decline

OPEN CLASH AT MILL GATE

On Tuesday morning 25 men attempted to force a strike at the Hannah Pickett mill in Rockingham by blocking workers from the gate. Six officers dispersed them and arrested Numa Stogner and Howard Davis as the leaders. The mill was closed last fall for 58 days by a strike.

HILL HEADS PIEDMONT LEAGUE

Dan Hill, Asheville, was chosen president of the Piedmont baseball league in a Wednesday meeting at Greensboro. Greensboro, Durham and Wilmington will hold their franchises. Bud Moore, Charlotte, surrendered that franchise. February 10 was set as date for the next meeting and as limit of time allowed Charlotte, Winston-Salem, Asheville and High Point to fill the three other berths in a six-club league.

ROOSEVELT HEARS STIMSON

A summary of the complex international relationships of the federal government was given to President-elect Roosevelt on Monday by Secretary of State Henry L. Stimson, in an all-day conference in New York.

STALIN CITES WAR TRENDS

Joseph Stalin, Soviet dictator, has made a formal report on the Russian five-year plan. He admits only 93 per cent of the general industrial program was attained and declared that threats of war diverted energy of the state necessary to complete the plan.

TRAFFIC DEATHS DECLINE

Motor vehicle fatalities in the United States numbered about 29,000 in 1932, the national Safety Council reports. This was 4,000 fewer fatalities than occurred in 1931, a decline of 13 per cent. The decrease is partly accounted for in the decrease of traffic. Automobile registration and gasoline sales were from 5 to 6 per cent less in 1932 than in 1931.

ROAD CONTRACTS LET

The highway commission on Friday approved bids for construction of 54 miles of highways in seven projects, the bids totaling \$283,500. The commission voted to have a \$175,000 bridge built over the Catawba river between Charlotte and Gastonia and a \$55,000 bridge over the Yadkin river at North Wilkesboro.

BURLINGTON AIRPLANE CRASH

Lawrence Gwyn, 47, was critically hurt in the crash of his airplane at Burlington, Sunday afternoon. Offered the alternative of having both legs amputated or risking grave chances of losing his life he decided to keep his legs and take a chance.

FIVE TAR HEELS HELD

William Waller, Samuel Waller, Orel Buck, Harvey Vernon, and James Minkoff all North Carolinians held in the Stuart, Va. jail for the December killing of one officer and wounding of another, were in Saturday held by the Patrick county grand jury on 15 indictments charging murder, assault, housebreaking and larceny.

WOULD SERVE BROTHER'S TIME

Clifford Perry, Elizabeth City youth, tried to serve a three-months whisky sentence for his brother at Norfolk, but the changed identity of the prisoner under bond was discovered and Clifford had to pay a \$25 fine for obstructing justice.

\$1,635,000 MORE FOR RELIEF

The Reconstruction Finance corporation has allotted North Carolina \$1,635,000 for emergency relief in January and February. Mecklenburg and Guilford county, each to receive \$100,000, share most heavily in the distribution to the counties of the state.

ASSEMBLY CUTS COSTS

A reduction of approximately 100 in the number of employees of the general assembly is to be made for this session. Total costs of the session are to be greatly less than the \$187,118 which was the total cost of the 141-day session of two years ago.

RUINED LINER TOWED IN

The hulk of the liner Atlantique, which was gutted by fire in the English channel last week resulting in the loss of 18 lives, was on Friday towed into the French port of Cherbourg.

The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Marionian

PROGRESSIVE LIBERAL INDEPENDENT

VOL. XLVIII, No. 2

FRANKLIN, N. C. THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1933

\$1.50 PER YEAR

ECONOMY URGED BY EHRLINGHAUS

Inauguration of New Chief Executive Marked by Simplicity

SEES DARK PICTURE

Expresses Confidence in "Character, Courage" Of People

At the simplest inaugural exercises in Raleigh in many a year John Christopher Blucher Ehringhaus, of Elizabeth City, became the 54th governor of North Carolina last Thursday noon. Although only a few days out of a Norfolk, Va., hospital and apparently weak from his recent illness, the new chief executive determinedly delivered his inaugural message, painting a dark picture of the state's financial plight but declaring optimistically that "I have faith in the character and courage of the people of North Carolina."

Urges Balanced Budget

"Ladies and gentlemen of the assembly, the most important and imperative duty that rests upon you greets you at the threshold of your labors—THE BUDGET MUST BE BALANCED IMMEDIATELY! And when I say balanced I mean balanced on the basis of substantial certainty, beyond cavil, doubt or dispute. Unless this is accomplished quickly, chaos, confusion, contumely, defaults, scrip payments and destruction of our institutions are immediately ahead. It is an ugly picture, I paint it with reluctance, but at such an hour the plain, unvarnished truth is best: North Carolinians know how to 'take it on the chin and take it standing up.'"

Other Recommendations

- Following is a list of the principal recommendations set forth in the governor's message:
1. A balanced budget immediately.
 2. Levy of no new taxes.
 3. Immediate revaluation of property.
 4. Relief from the 15-cent state-wide levy for support of schools.
 5. Drastic curtailment in spending.
 6. Economy in general governmental set-up.
 7. Abolition of entertainment fund for chief executive.
 8. Abolition of position of executive counsel and granting to governor of power to appoint pardon commissioner.
 9. Transfer of local government commission to treasury department.
 10. Consolidation of highway and prison departments. Consolidation of all motor vehicle collections.
 11. Elimination of duplications in governmental functions.
 12. No new commitments involving additional state money.
 13. No diversion of highway funds.
 14. No new construction of highways for next biennium.
 15. Broader supervision of local governments.
 16. Consolidation of counties or of counties and towns.
 17. Elimination or consolidation of local government statutory offices.
 18. Interpretation of local salary limitations to allow reductions.
 19. Supervision of local expenditures and tax levies.
 20. Extension of local debt maturity dates.
 21. Reduction in cost of tax foreclosures.
 22. Foreclosure postponement of back taxes.
 23. Discontinuance of unrestrained fee expenditures.
 24. Stimulation of livestock, dairy and poultry industries.

Juniors Plan District Convention Jan. 19

The first district convention of the Junior Order United American Mechanics will be held in the Odd Fellows hall here Thursday, January 19, with Hugh Monteith, of Sylva, district deputy in charge. The initial meeting is scheduled for 7:30 o'clock in the evening. After the business session and the election of officers refreshments will be served.

Tallah Falls Railway Hearing Delayed a Week; Prospects Discouraging

Hearing before Federal Judge

E. Marvin Underwood on the petition of J. F. Gray, receiver of the Tallulah Falls Railway company, seeking authority to discontinue operation of the line, has been continued until Saturday morning, January 14. The hearing, which was continued from last July, was scheduled for last Saturday, D. D. Rice and M. L. Dowdle, of Franklin, and Col. T. L. Bynum, of Clayton, Ga., went to Atlanta to oppose the discontinuance petition. Judge Underwood was ill and the hearing was put off for one week.

On his return to Franklin Mr. Rice was gloomy over prospects for saving the "T. F."

When Judge Underwood deferred action on the discontinuance petition last July he said he would give the railroad one more chance to show that it could operate on a self-sustaining basis. Shippers and freight consignees in Franklin, Clayton and other points served by the line signed agreements to use the railroad in preference to motor carriers. This stimulated traffic over the line and shipments of gravel and road machinery for use in Macon county brought an increase in revenues. For a few months, according to H. L. Brewer, general manager, the railroad was self-sustaining. Attorneys for the Southern Railroad in Atlanta, however, told Mr. Rice and Mr. Dowdle that for the past six months the "T. F." has been operating at an average monthly loss of \$4,000.

While in Atlanta the Franklin and Clayton delegation conferred with Hugh Couch, assistant to the vice president of the Southern, which controls the Tallulah Falls line. Mr. Rice reported that Mr. Couch was not encouraging.

It is understood that one of the large creditors of the Tallulah Falls is pressing its claim and it is feared that this will cause other creditors to take similar action to protect their interests.

"The only hope I see," said Mr. Rice, "is that we pack the federal courtroom in Atlanta next Saturday morning with people from Franklin and Clayton. Then maybe the judge, seeing such a crowd of interested persons, will be inclined to postpone action for another sixty or ninety days."

Efforts are being made to employ an outstanding attorney to represent the cause of the communities served by the Tallulah Falls, but as yet none has been retained. The Macon county commissioners and also the town council of Franklin have agreed to put up a "reasonable amount" to defray the expense of legal representation.

No meeting of shippers has been called to plan a course of action, as this is being handled by a committee composed of M. D. Billings, chairman, D. D. Rice and M. L. Dowdle. This committee is encouraging all who can to attend the hearing next Saturday in Atlanta. Those who can go who do not have a means of transportation are urged to communicate with Mr. Rice.

Club To Meet

Work of Young Democrats To Be Discussed

Plans for continuing the work of the Young People's Democratic Club of Macon county will be discussed at a meeting of the organization in the courthouse Saturday afternoon, January 21. The program for the meeting has been announced by John W. Edwards, president of the club, as follows:

Music by the club's string band. Opening prayer by the Rev. O. P. Ader, pastor of the Methodist church.

Song—America.

Welcome address and a discussion of plans for the next two years—John W. Edwards.

A talk on how the club may be of service to the party—Frank L. Murray.

"Why Roosevelt Should Make a Great President"—Dr. W. A. Rogers.

"How the Club Helped in the Last Election"—Samuel J. Murray.

"Why We Women Are Proud To Be Members of the Y. P. D. C."—Miss Elizabeth Slagle.

Open forum conducted by Frank Norton, Harley Cabe, C. S. Tillery, Grady Owens and Miss Nanette Potts.

Bible Class Room Under Construction

The grinding noise of an air pressure drill, making way for windows through the 18-inch concrete wall of the First Baptist church, sent out the message Thursday that work had begun on the new class room for the Judge Awtry Bible class. This class is to construct a room in the basement of the church to care for its growing membership.

LEAS' BOND ENDANGERED

North Carolina may find it difficult to collect the \$30,000 and \$20,000 bonds given at Asheville by Luke Lea, Tennessee publisher, and his son, if the Leas should choose not to surrender by January 17 the final date set for them to meet terms of sentence for conspiring to wreck the Central Bank, New Orleans, which furnished the bonds, is in receivership.

STATE SALARY CUTS PROPOSED

More Economy Bills Are Introduced in State Legislature

1 ALREADY PASSED

Representative Cover Seeks Repeal of State's Dry Law

Introduction of numerous bills aimed at effecting economy in the state government has featured the first week of the 1933 General Assembly in session at Raleigh.

Only one of the economy measures has been passed, however, action on all others having been deferred until after Governor Ehringhaus has delivered his message on the budget next Monday night.

The lower house passed a bill Wednesday of last week slashing the salaries of elected state officers 15 per cent. The Senate passed the same bill Thursday morning, shortly before inauguration of the new governor and other state officers, but a question has been raised as to the constitutionality of the measure because the constitution prohibits the reduction or increase of the salary of a state officer during his term of office. Some legal minds are of the opinion that enactment of the measure on the same day new officers were sworn in would make it valid.

Asks Voluntary Cuts

The Senate, however, adopted a resolution yesterday calling on all state officials, including judges and members of the legislature, voluntarily to accept a cut in their salaries.

One of the most outstanding economy bills introduced was one by Representative S. E. Douglas, of Wake, to abolish county superintendents of education and place supervision of public schools in the hands of school managers appointed for each of the 11 congressional districts. Salaries of the school managers would be placed at \$2,000 with \$1,200 for traveling expenses and \$3,000 for clerical assistance. The author of the bill estimated that it would have \$300,000 a year.

Another economy bill introduced by Representative Douglas provides for a graduated scale of reductions in the salaries of all state highway employees receiving more than \$1,500 a year. The reductions proposed would range from 10 per cent for the smaller salaries to 33 1-3 per cent for the larger ones.

Sales Tax Sought

A gross sales tax of one half of one per cent on the gross sales value of every product manufactured in North Carolina is proposed in a bill introduced by Senator Hayden Clement of Rowan, chairman of the upper house's committee on appropriations.

In the house, Representative Randolph, of Swain county, and Lumpkin, of Franklin county, proposed a tax to equal five per cent of the present federal levy on manufactured tobacco products, estimating it would produce \$14,900,000 annually.

Repeal Bill

It fell to Representative Cover, of Cherokee county, who at 23 is the youngest member of the legislature, to explode the prohibition bombshell. There seemed to be a tacit understanding among the legislative leaders that the prohibition question would be avoided as long as possible, but young Cover introduced a bill Tuesday providing for outright repeal of the Turlington act, the state's stringent prohibition enforcement statute.

If the Turlington act should be repealed at this session and the national prohibition laws modified by congress at the short session or a special session in March, North Carolina would be ready for light wines and beer.

The Cover bill was sidetracked, however, when it was referred to the judiciary committee, this committee deciding to delay the measure until congress has definitely voted in beer and light wines.

DROP ELECTION FRAUD CASES

Federal election fraud charges against 23 Watauga county men for alleged obstructions in the 1930 elections, were dropped by middle district federal court in Greensboro last week. Two similar cases, already tried, ended in acquittal.

New Relief Loan Allotment Gives \$3,000 to Macon

Only 12 Confederate Veterans Left in County

George W. Parrish, 90-year old Confederate veteran, died at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning at his home near West's Mill after an illness of several months. Funeral services were held at Cowes Baptist church at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. Parrish's death leaves only 12 veterans of the gray still living in Macon county. He was a member of Company H, 16th Regiment of North Carolina state troops. He was a farmer in the Otto section for several years before moving to West's Mill. He is survived by his widow and three children: Will Parrish, of Otto; Mrs. Gordie Bradley, of the state of Washington; and R. L. Parrish of West's Mill.

\$1,000 Provided for Work In January; \$2,000 In February

MUCH ROAD WORK

\$3,268 already Spent on Relief Projects, Says Miss Davis

An additional \$3,000 to meet emergency relief needs has been allotted to Macon county by the Governor's Office of Relief out of the \$1,635,000 loan recently received by the state from the federal Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

One thousand dollars of the county's new allotment is for relief work during January and \$2,000 for emergency activities in February. The money is to be paid in installments.

For several weeks the county welfare department, which is supervising expenditure of the relief funds, has been paying workmen employed on relief projects with employment on merchants for food, clothing and other necessary supplies. Miss Rachel Davis, county welfare superintendent, explained that this system was adopted on the instructions of the state relief director with view to insuring expenditure of the money only for absolute necessities.

\$3,268 Spent

Much work of a public improvement nature has been accomplished with the relief funds. Miss Davis announced last week that since October this county has received \$3,268 in relief funds, affording employment for 740 men on 26 different projects in various sections of the county.

Most of the projects have been road work which was supervised by State highway employees. For the remainder of the winter the State highway commission has placed at the relief committee's disposal, five foremen with trucks.

Nantahala National Forest officials have offered fence posts and lumber that will be required to fence the athletic field at the Franklin high school. A number of business men of Franklin have offered the use of their trucks to haul this material to the grounds.

Cemetery Improved

The Franklin cemetery association is providing supervision and teams for hauling gravel for a crew at work on the cemetery property. The county commissioners have cooperated with the relief committee by making an appropriation for extra work to be done on the grounds of the new county home. This project is providing employment for a crew of from 15 to 20 men for four weeks.

Substitutes Explained

Several weeks ago reports were current that the maintenance division of the state highway commission was taking advantage of the emergency relief funds and was laying off regular employees, substituting for them workmen hired at a lower wage and paid out of the relief fund. Inquiring into these reports, Miss Davis wrote J. T. Knight, district engineer of the highway commission with offices at Asheville, who replied in part:

"As you probably know, funds for highway and road maintenance are very low at this time. For several months we have been spending in Macon county more than our budget for that county. We were allowed to do this with the understanding that we would reduce our forces and expenditures when the weather forced us to discontinue surfacing.

"The use of relief labor in Macon county will permit us to do maintenance work on roads and highways which we could not do under our regular highway funds."

TEN BILLIONS FOR PLAY

The people of the United States spend over \$10,000,000,000 yearly for recreation, it is found in the three-year survey of social trends. Automobile vacations, cost \$3,200,000,000. Boxing pool, cabarets, fraternal societies, baseball are declining in favor. Golf, football, hunting and hiking are growing more popular.

DEATH CLAIMS F. N. JOHNSON

Clarkesville Man's Death Caused by Stroke of Paralysis

Fred N. Johnson, 60, died at his home in Clarkesville, Ga., Monday morning at 3 o'clock. Death resulted from a stroke of paralysis a week ago.

Funeral services were held at the Cartoogechaye Baptist church Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock with the Rev. P. C. Burrell pastor of the First Baptist church of Clarkesville, having charge of the services.

Mr. Johnson was formerly of Macon county, having moved to Clarkesville about 20 years ago. He was superintendent of Carpenters of the Georgia Power company.

Mr. Johnson is survived by seven children; two sisters, Mrs. R. M. Ledford, of Franklin and Mrs. D. M. Sweetman, of Franklin, Route 1; two brothers, George Johnson, of Franklin Route 1, and Williams S. Johnson, of Birdview, Washington.

Only 10 Marriages In Macon during 1932

Only 10 marriages were performed in Macon county in 1932, as against 21 the previous year, according to figures compiled by C. Tom Bryson, who as register of deeds has charge of issuing marriage licenses. The few marriages reported in this county is attributed to the fact that many Macon county couples went to Clayton and other points in Georgia to get married because Georgia laws provide no marriage bans and do not require medical examination.

DISASTROUS FIRE AT SPARTA

Nine business buildings and the Alleghany courthouse burned at Sparta, Saturday afternoon, when a fire started in a cafe and was quickly spread by a north wind to other buildings. County records were saved in a fireproof vault. The loss is from \$75,000 to \$100,000, citizens estimate.

POLITICS ARE CHEAPER

Cutting the cost of the 1928 campaign in half, the Republican national committee has reported expenses of the 1932 campaign as \$2,670,652, the Democrats report expenditures of \$2,250,000.

NUMBER OF JOBLESS GROWS

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, estimates 11,500,000 able workers were out of work in November and says this record number has further increased. However, he says unemployment has not increased so rapidly this year as in others.

CAMPBELL IS PAROLED

One of the last acts of Governor Max Gardner was to parole W. W. Campbell, Asheville, sentenced to death in 1922, for killing his sweetheart. His sentence was commuted to life imprisonment in 1923, and reduced to 20 years in 1929.