

It Happened This Week

Leas Skip Bonds U. S. Revenue Drops Consolidations Urged Judges Take Pay Cut Relief Loans Mount

LEAS FAIL TO SURRENDER
 Luke Lea, Tennessee publisher and former senator, and his son, Luke Lea, Jr., failed to appear in Buncombe county Superior court Monday to start their sentences for conspiracy to defraud the now defunct Central bank of nearly \$1,000,000. Capiases were issued for their arrest, extradition proceedings were begun and forfeiture of their bonds totalling \$50,000 was ordered.

U. S. TAXES STILL DECLINE
 In December federal tax collections were only \$210,995,057, or \$84,504,169 below December collections in 1931. Shrinkage in income tax receipts accounted for the drop.

REORGANIZATION REPORT
 The general assembly's joint committee on reorganization of the state government reported Friday night presenting nine bills to abolish, curtail or consolidate 18 branches of the state government at an estimated annual saving of \$2,000,000.

JUDGES ACCEPT PAY CUT
 Supreme and superior court judges of the state met in Raleigh Saturday, to vote a voluntary \$1,000 annual reduction in salary, in line with the suggestion of the reorganization committee of the general assembly.

R. F. C. LOANS HUGE SUM
 In 11½ months the Reconstruction Finance corporation has loaned \$1,648,622,393 to financial firms, railroads, business, agriculture and to states for unemployment relief. Banks got over half of it. Repayments already total \$317,288,072.

CHINA MASSES HER TROOPS
 Shanghai reports the Chinese nationalist government is moving 250,000 troops into northern provinces to repel the anticipated Japanese thrust into Jehol province and possibly against Reiping.

SENATOR QUILTS HIS POST
 To give his successor a brief training before his regular term begins, Senator Harry B. Hawes, Democrat, Missouri, steps out of the senate, February 3, and gives his post to Bennett C. Clark, son of the famous Champ Clark.

THRILLING SEA RESCUE
 The crew of 22 was saved from the British freighter, Exeter City, in mid-Atlantic Friday, after storms had battered the boat into a wreck and had taken the lives of four. The thrilling rescue was made by the liner, American Merchant.

PLAN ENGLISH DEBT CONFERENCE
 At the White House, Friday, President Hoover and President-elect Roosevelt agreed to open early debt parleys with Great Britain shortly after March 4 when Roosevelt becomes president.

37 N. C. WAR MOTHERS HONORED
 Thirty-seven mothers of North Carolina men who died in the service in the World war, have been invited to visit their sons' graves in France this summer in the last of the pilgrimages to be provided by the federal government.

REVIEWS MUSCLE SHOALS
 President-elect Roosevelt, accompanied by congressmen and power experts, on Saturday, reviewed the gigantic but slumbering Muscle Shoals power development, pledged to put the plant to work, to use it as nucleus of a great federal power development in the south.

HOUSE JUNKS MARRIAGE LAW
 Having already repealed the law requiring minors to give five days notice of intention to marry, the lower house of the general assembly on Monday voted to repeal also the bill requiring medical certificate of physical fitness before a marriage license could be issued in the state. Both bills are before the senate.

COLUMBIA FIRES TECHNOCRAT
 Chief Technocrat Howard Scott has been fired from Columbia university and the institution has closed its doors on technocracy. Scott's theory of scientific government which has been vastly publicized in recent months. The university will continue its energy survey of North America.

CHASE HEADS NEW YORK U.
 Dr. Harry W. Chase, president of University of North Carolina from 1919 to 1930, since then president of the University of Illinois, has been elected chancellor of New York university, an institution with 40,000 students.

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Use the Want Ads

Classified advertisements in The Franklin Press bring results. If you have something to sell or trade, try a classified ad. The cost is small only one cent a word with a minimum charge of 25 cents for each insertion.

FUNERAL HELD FOR MISS KELLY

Educational Leader Dies At Home Here After Long Illness

With several hundred friends from all walks of life present to pay their final respects to a beloved woman and leader, funeral services were held at 11 o'clock Tuesday morning in the Methodist church for Miss Elizabeth Kelly, who died at 11 o'clock Sunday night, quietly passing in her sleep, after an illness which had confined her to her bed for three months.

Miss Kelly underwent a serious operation in October. Afterwards she forced doctors to tell her the truth about her condition,—that the extent of her life was only a matter of days. It was characteristic of her desire and willingness to face the facts unflinchingly. She accepted the news bravely and when friends went to see her at her home, where she was removed a week or so after the operation, she talked with them cheerfully, frequently manifesting the sparkling repartee for which she was famous.

Miss Kelly is survived by her mother, Mrs. Eliza Kelly, and two sisters, Mrs. Octa Kelly Greenwood and Mrs. Lottie Kelly Cunningham, of Franklin. Both of her sisters were with her at the time of her death.

CLAIMED BY DEATH



MISS ELIZABETH KELLY

teacher was begun in Macon county, where she held many positions of high trust and won wide recognition.

She was called to Johnson county, where she was made assistant county superintendent and supervisor of schools.

Going to Raleigh, while J. Y. Joyner was superintendent of public education, Miss Kelly did an outstanding work in adult illiteracy. Here, too, she planned and promoted summer schools for teachers throughout the state. She formulated an outline study course for teachers in the state which was an outstanding achievement. The biggest honor was granted her when she was made president of the State Teachers' association and became one of the editors of their organ, "The State Teacher."

While A. W. McLean was governor, she was made a member of the State Board of Equalization, covering the state with her activities in this field. She was called to Chicago to give over the radio a series of farm talks.

Directed Red Cross

Returning to her home county two years ago, Miss Kelly was appointed chairman of the Macon county Red Cross chapter, wherein she did such fine work that the editor of the Red Cross magazine gave her special recognition.

When The Asheville Citizen and Times launched a 5-10 Year Farm Program leading Macon county men made Miss Kelly co-chairman of their organization.

In her work for the Red Cross Miss Kelly received no compensation, but she rendered a colossal service.

She was quick to see through a situation and quick to speak out her mind in the matter. She was keen to discover a fraud and dared to dismiss and unworthy parasite who sought to cover up his deceit by pious pretenses. But for the poor and needy she had a heart of true and tender compassion. She served well her day and generation.

In October of last year Miss Kelly went to the hospital for an operation, hoping for relief; but the doctor had to tell her that her case was one beyond the reach of any surgeon's skill, and that her days were numbered. It was a shocking revelation to her happy spirit, as she faced cruel suffering and certain death. As she saw the end of her earthly career cut short there was serious questioning in her soul and there were days of darkness and struggle in her mind and heart. But in that awful struggle and inward strife her faith triumphed and she came out with a shining face and a faith purged by fire.

To one who asked how it was with her soul, she gave the cheerful testimony:

"My faith holds; my anchor holds."

x x x x

Her end came as the holy Sabbath day was ending, January 22, at 11 o'clock, and it was in the peace like that of the perfect man mentioned in Psalms 37:37:

"Mark the perfect and behold the upright, for the end of that man is peace."

Miss Kelly joined the church at Patton's chapel when about 14 years of age. Saved by the grace, her simple childhood faith sustained her through life's battles and brought sweet peace to her soul when she came at last to "Cross the Bar."

"Sunset and evening star
 And one clear call for me,
 And may there be no mourning at the bar
 When I put out to sea."

4 BANDITS ROB GEORGE DRYMAN

Middle Creek Man Severely Hurt by Brigands; No Arrests

Climaxing a series of bold robberies in Franklin and throughout the county, four masked men forcibly entered the home of George Dryman, 83, in the Middle Creek section about midnight Monday and escaped with his trousers with \$1.25 in a pocket after striking him on the head with a board.

Thursday morning Mr. Dryman was reported to be suffering seriously as a result of the attack. He sustained a bad gash on his head, a broken rib and an old rupture was aggravated.

The masked men broke down the front door of the house and when Mr. Dryman arose from his bed they seized a board and knocked him to the floor. It is believed they thought the aged man had a quantity of hoarded money hidden in the house. He started for his pants on a chair near his bed and it is thought they took this as an indication the money was in them. They got only the \$1.25, however.

In the house with Mr. Dryman were three daughters. The robbers were reported to have nearly smothered one of them holding a quilt over her head and pinning her to a bed while the others were robbing her father. The other daughters suffered considerably from fright.

The robbers tore down a foot bridge across a creek leading to the homes of neighbors so they could not cross the stream and give the Drymans assistance.

Bloodhounds Fail

Sheriff Slagle put bloodhounds on the trail Tuesday morning, but they soon lost the track. The only clues found were a mask lost by one of the robbers in the yard of the house and the stolen pants which were found on a mountain about a mile away. No arrests have been made.

About Saturday midnight the store of Ransom Ledford near Union church was broken into by a band of thieves who escaped with merchandise valued at between \$40 and \$50. Mr. Ledford, who lives nearby, surprised the robbers and fired on them—but they succeeded in escaping in a waiting automobile.

Luck's tourist camp on the road to Highlands was reported raided by a band of robbers last Friday night. They escaped with about \$100 in merchandise from the camp store.

Federal Court's Decision In 'T. F.' Railway Hearing Seen as Victory for Public

We Face a Crisis

Our section from Franklin to Cornelia faces the possibility of discontinuance of the Tallulah Falls Railroad. The gravity of the situation can hardly be estimated, for it affects not only the immediate welfare of this mountain country but its future development as well.

We, the editors of the four newspapers published in the territory primarily served by the Tallulah Falls road, have canvassed the situation carefully and have conferred together, coming to the conclusion that with active coordination of the sentiment that already exists and that with the full use of present facilities for the building up of actual and potential business, the railroad can still be made to justify its existence as a going concern.

We believe that this territory can by no means afford through lack of effort to allow the railroad to be junked with the consequent losses bound to ensue; nor can we sit idly by while its fate is decided by those who are not vitally concerned in it or the welfare of the communities and interests which it serves.

It is our plan, therefore, to publish in our four newspapers a series of editorials setting forth facts upon which we fully agree and conclusions which we have jointly reached.

These editorials will be unusual in that they will be the joint production of the four newspaper editors whose names are signed below, but we believe that thus presented they will carry weight and be entitled to consideration greater than that which might otherwise be attached to them. The first of this series of editorials will appear in each of our four newspapers in next week's issues.

Blackburn W. Johnson,
 Editor, The Franklin Press, Franklin, N. C.

R. E. Cross,
 Editor, The Clayton Tribune, Clayton, Ga.

B. H. Graves,
 Editor, The Tri-County Advertiser, Clarkesville, Ga.

S. C. Heindel,
 Editor, The Northeast Georgian, Cornelia, Ga.

Receiver Gets Authority To File Petition Before I. C. C.

LONG DELAYS LIKELY

Authority to file an application with the Interstate Commerce Commission for right to discontinue operation of the Tallulah Falls Railway was granted J. F. Gray, receiver, following a hearing in Atlanta Wednesday morning before Judge E. Marvin Underwood of the United States court for the northern district of Georgia. Communities served by the railroad, however, were assured by Mr. Gray that they would be given ample opportunity to voice their protests. He also expressed the opinion that it probably would be two months before the Interstate Commerce Commission could hear the case and that after the hearing the commission would require two or three months more to arrive at a decision.

Victory for Public

Officials of the railroad had expressed the opinion that it might not be necessary to take the case before the Interstate Commerce Commission and that there was grave possibility of the line being closed down in the immediate future. In view of this, the order issued by Judge Underwood is regarded by business men in Franklin as a signal victory for the public served by the "T. F."

"It's better than we had hoped for," was the usual comment. Announcement of Judge Underwood's decision was received by The Press in the following telegram from headquarters of the railroad at Cornelia, Ga., its southern terminus:

Court's Order

"The United States Court for the Northern District of Georgia, Gainesville division, issued an order January 25, 1933, authorizing the receiver of the Tallulah Falls Railway company to make application to the Interstate Commerce Commission for permission to abandon operation of the railway. However, the order contains a provision intended to protect the public as far as possible, to the effect that even if the Interstate Commerce Commission should grant the receiver's application, no action shall be taken by the receiver upon the commission's permission, except and until further authorized by order of the court.

Gray Issues Statement

"In order to clarify the matter in the minds of the public the receiver issues the following statement:

"It probably will be two months before the application can be heard by the commission. The receiver will undertake to see that the hearing is held in Clayton or Franklin in order that the public may be given the fullest possible opportunity to be heard. After the hearing it may take the commission two or three months to reach and publish its decision, and even then, as before indicated, if the commission's decision permits abandonment of operation, the entire matter must again be reviewed by the court.

Urges Support

"It is apparent from the foregoing that nothing definite towards abandonment of operation will be done for some time to come. In the meantime it is more essential than ever before that the public should continue to patronize the railway to the fullest extent possible. It is essential also that the railway in the meantime should be operated as economically as possible and the receiver pledges his best efforts towards this end.

"None of us can forecast the future, particularly now, with any certainty. Let us hope that business generally throughout the country will rapidly improve and that our railway will get a substantial share of such improvement and possibly be benefited largely by some large development in mining or lumbering, in which event it may be possible to continue operation of the railway. The step which has been taken in bringing the case to the Interstate Commerce Commission is a protection for the benefit primarily of the public and only incidentally of the creditors."

CAR OVERTURNS; TWO RED CROSS 4 LAND IN JAIL

Sylva Men Arrested on Liquor Charges Following Long Chase

An automobile overturned on the Georgia road near the Franklin public school about 7 a. m. Wednesday morning and landed four Sylva men in jail, one of them considerably cut up and bruised, all of them charged with transporting and possessing whisky.

A crowd began to congregate around the car. One of the men, Elos Burch, was pinned beneath the automobile, a touring car bearing a New Hampshire license. He was pulled out from beneath the machine but was so badly hurt that he couldn't run. His companions gathered up some suspicious looking jars and jugs in sacks and struck out across country.

Police Chief R. A. Henry, Sheriff A. B. Slagle and Deputy George Mallonee arrived on the scene and gave chase, assisted valiantly by Charlie Adams and Komulus Carpenter. They found several liquor laden sacks near the school house, captured Tom McDowell, negro, in a broom sage field near Bonny Crest, and finally overtook and arrested Cole Burch and Clayton Taylor about a mile and a half away on the Highlands road near John Thomas' farm. Charlie Adams was the first to catch up with the latter two and, although unarmed, held them at bay until the officers arrived.

The men waived preliminary hearing and were placed in jail in default of \$600 bond each to await trial at the April term of court. There were some reports that a fifth occupant of the car escaped.

TWO RED CROSS GROUPS MERGE

Consolidation of Chapters Expected To Expedite Relief Work

The Highlands chapter of the Red Cross decided at a meeting held January 16 to merge with the Franklin chapter, therefore forming only one chapter for Macon county. This step was taken for expediency in distribution of supplies and other transactions. Reports showed that it would save needless time and labor to have only one chapter for the county.

Officers of the former Highlands chapter were Rev. W. T. Potts, chairman; W. S. Davis, vice-chairman; Frank B. Cook, secretary-treasurer, and the committee appointed for the Highlands school district to look after those needing help was composed of J. C. Mell, chairman, Miss C. B. Elliott, and Mrs. C. H. Zoellner.

Stove Explodes Two Barely Escape from Burning House

A combination garage and apartment building, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Holt and formerly a part of the T. W. Porter property, was burned at 11 o'clock Sunday morning when a gasoline stove exploded while being ignited. Mr. and Mrs. Holt rushed from the building, barely escaping serious injury.

The fire spread rapidly and, despite the fact that the fire department did quick work and had a hose of water playing on the flames inside of five minutes after the blaze started, it soon gutted the building almost beyond repair. Damage to the building, which belongs to the Bank of Franklin, was estimated at \$1,000. Damage to furniture and personal effects was placed at about \$300. Mr. and Mrs. Holt were unable to recover from the burning building any of their belongings or the furniture, which belonged to Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Porter.

Library Meeting Reopening of Library To Be Discussed Monday

Persons interested in reopening the Franklin library in the Masonic hall are requested to meet in the office of The Franklin Press at 8 p. m. next Monday night.

Mrs. Margaret Ordway and several other residents have volunteered part of their time in cleaning the library hall, arranging the books and supervising their distribution. The library has been closed for several years. The Masons, it is understood, would be glad to have the library room used provided some responsible group or organization will take charge of it.

The meeting Monday night has been called with view to perfecting a library association and making arrangements for use of the books now in the library and for securing additional volumes. Several tentative gifts of books already have been offered.

Red Cross To Elect Officers on February 4

A meeting of the Macon county chapter of the American Red Cross has been called by J. E. Lancaster, chairman, for 2 o'clock in the afternoon, Saturday, February 4, in the Macon county courthouse, for the purpose of electing officers for the coming year.

Mr. Lancaster especially requested that all members of community relief committees be present at this meeting.

New Buyer Revives Interest in Poultry

More than 28,000 pounds of poultry had been shipped from Franklin last week by Odell Whittington, who came here from Wilkes county three weeks ago and began buying chickens and eggs. Mr. Whittington, who has headquarters in the McCoy building on Palmer street, ships most of the poultry he buys by truck to Philadelphia. He has been quoting prices of nine cents a pound for hens, stags and fryers and six cents a pound for cocks, ducks and white leghorns. Interest in raising poultry in Macon county has gained considerably since Mr. Whittington came to town.

ROOSEVELT URGES SPEED

President-elect Roosevelt conferred with congressional leaders last Thursday night to urge enactment of a farm relief bill, the balancing of the budget, and the repeal of the 18th amendment, during the present session of congress.