

As the World Turns

A Brief Survey of Current Events in State, Nation and Abroad—the Facts Boiled Down to a Few Pithy Lines.

BEER BILL ENACTED

Sale of beer and wine not exceeding 3.2 per cent in alcoholic content will become legal in 14 states after midnight, April 6. The act authorizing light wines and beer became law Wednesday afternoon, when President Roosevelt, wearing a broad smile, signed his name to the measure passed by congress. The legislation is expected to raise about \$125,000,000 tax annually. The states in which wine and beer will be legal are: Arizona, California, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington Wisconsin. A hearing was scheduled in Raleigh Thursday on a bill by Senator Francis, of Haywood, which would permit the sale of beer and wine in North Carolina.

WOULD MERGE CLOSED BANKS

Gurney Hood, state banking commissioner, is working on a plan to merge the resources and credits of many of the 128 state banks not yet operating or under restrictions and to form a statewide institution with some 50 officers, capital of \$2,000,000 or more, and with initial borrowings from federal sources on preferred stock.

LEAS OUT ON BAIL

Luke Lea and Luke Lea, Jr., were freed on \$15,000 bail at Clarksville, Tenn., on Monday, pending a hearing on April 3 of the habeas corpus writ by which they are resisting removal to North Carolina to serve sentences for wrecking the Central bank of Asheville.

SOUGHT FOR EMBEZZLEMENT

Pennsylvania has honored extradition papers for arrest of W. J. Weinrich, wanted in Greensboro on charges of embezzling \$27,000 from the Southern Public Utilities. Until May, Weinrich was chief clerk at Greensboro for the utilities company. Search for Weinrich is being made at West Lawn, Pa.

OHIO FLOODS TAKE TOLL

At least eight deaths and \$1,000,000 or more in property damage have resulted from flood waters this week on the Ohio river.

MANY BANKS RESUME WORK

Nearly 14,000 of the nation's 18,000 banks have resumed business on a normal basis, treasury reports show. In North Carolina 31 national banks and 192 state banks had resumed business by the first of the week.

ZANGARA DIES IN CHAIR

Giuseppe Zangara, diminutive Italian gunman, who fatally wounded Mayor Anton Cermak, Chicago, on February 15, in Miami when he fired five times in an attempt to assassinate President Roosevelt, died in the electric chair at Raiford, Fla., on Monday morning.

GASTONIA BANKERS SENTENCED

Steve Morris, cashier of the closed First National bank at Gastonia, got three years for embezzling \$1,465, and Thomas B. Carpenter, assistant cashier of the same bank got seven years for embezzling \$20,000 when the two entered pleas in federal district court at Shelby on Monday. The two were arrested on Friday and Saturday of last week.

FEDERAL INCOME TAX RISES

Despite the banking holiday and postponement of income tax deadline to March 31, income tax receipts of the federal government in the first half of the month were \$2,000,000 greater than for the same period of 1932.

CONGRESS TO CARRY ON

Encouraged by the progress made in banking, economy and beer legislation, the new administration has abandoned its plan for a month's recess of congress and that body is now expected to carry on until May 1 to consider railroad, relief, farm and additional banking legislation.

HALTS TALK OF WAR

Talking direct with ambassadors of the chief powers, President Roosevelt last week put the nation on record in a policy of less international suspicion and for specific reductions in arms. At Geneva, Prime Minister MacDonald, of England, inspired the world disarmament conference with a proposal for substantial reduction of armed forces, for permitting Germany and her allies to increase military police forces, and for a consultative agreement of nations under the terms of the Kellogg anti-war pact.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR

POWER PLANT SURRENDERED Bank Paying Off New Deposits In Full

HOOD DENIES NEW LICENSE Checking Accounts Barred; Levy on Stockholders Is Called

Closed since March 6, when the nationwide bank moratorium went into effect, the Bank of Franklin reopened Tuesday to pay off depositors but not to accept new deposits. Since the bank reopened in May, 1931, five months after its failure, it has been functioning as a trust depository and clearing house as well as a liquidating agency for its old accounts. Gurney P. Hood, state commissioner of Banks, will not permit this arrangement to continue, taking the stand that, in effect, it constitutes a bank operating without capital. H. W. Cabe, cashier of the bank, and G. A. Jones, attorney, went to Raleigh last Friday to confer with Mr. Hood. They explained to the banking commissioner that the Bank of Franklin could meet in full all demands on new deposits; but he ruled that in view of recent financial developments and more stringent banking regulations it would be necessary for the local institution to be reorganized before it could resume business.

Speed Liquidation
No definite plan has been worked out as yet for reopening of the bank; but steps have been taken to speed up liquidation of old accounts. Meanwhile, deposits accepted since May, 1931, may be withdrawn in full; but the bank cannot accept new deposits, clear or collect checks. Mr. Cabe said depositors in the "new bank" could allow their money to remain in the bank if they so desire, but they could not use it as a checking account and could not make new deposits.

Stock Levy Made
Stockholders were notified Wednesday afternoon at a meeting in the directors' room that a stock assessment payment of 10 per cent would have to be met by March 20. One 10 per cent levy already has been collected and a 90 per cent assessment announced. It was also stated that another payment on the 90 per cent assessment, amounting to 10 per cent or more, would have to be paid by the last of April.

Mr. Jones informed the stockholders that as attorney for the bank he would push for the collection of unpaid notes with renewed vigor and that already he had instructed the sheriff to execute a number of judgments.

\$38,000 Deposits
Various plans for liquidating assets of the old bank and raising money to pay off old deposits, amounting to \$38,000, were discussed; but no definite plan was adopted.

Professor M. D. Billings, vice president, told the stockholders that the bank held \$116,000 in notes after marking off paper regarded as worthless. The bank's statement showed, he said, that its assets were at least \$60,000 in excess of its liabilities. He expressed the opinion that if the depositors could be satisfied, the path would be clear for reopening the bank.

The Highlands Bank also is still closed. It was learned that the banking commissioner has required it to increase its capitalization from \$15,000 to \$25,000 before opening. Highlands business men are now endeavoring hopefully to meet this requirement.

Joseph Henry Dies At Home on Cat Creek

Joseph Henry, 60, farmer of the Cat Creek section of Millshoal township of Macon county, died at his home early Sunday morning. Funeral services were held at the Holly Springs Baptist church Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Mr. Henry is survived by his widow and one brother, Ike Henry.

Marked Increase Reported In 'T. F.' Freight Shipments

Business of the Tallulah Falls Railway has shown marked improvement since the first of the year, according to authoritative information supplied The Press. Traffic has increased to such an extent that it has led some persons familiar with the line's affairs to believe that, if it continues, there will be slight chance of the Interstate Commerce Commission granting the abandonment petition filed in January by J. F. Gray, receiver. The increase in car loadings for January, February and the first week in March of this year, as compared with the same period of last year, amounts to 68 cars, or 15.28 per cent. This increase is accredited to a slight revival of the timber business, new highway work in Macon county and the use of the railroad, in preference to truck lines, by

merchants in Franklin and other towns served by the "T. F." For the first time in six years or more, it is reported, the "T. F." has been making operating expenses. During the first two weeks in March its business showed a 27 per cent gain over the first two weeks of March, 1932. In January, this year, the line handled 235 cars of freight, as against 196 in January of last year; and in February this year the number of cars handled was 213, as against 203 for the same month last year. Indications are that for the time being, at least, the increased business will continue. Fifteen car loads, mostly of forest products, were scheduled to leave Franklin and Otto this week. Business also is gaining at other points along the road. In lower Rabun county considerable timber is moving.

MEETING HELD BY METHODISTS Over 100 Attend Pre-Easter Conference Called by Rev. Hayes

At the call of Rev. L. B. Hayes, presiding elder of the Waynesville district, more than a hundred Methodists gathered at the Franklin Methodist church Sunday afternoon for a pre-Easter conference and fellowship meeting.

Rev. Mr. Hayes opened the meeting, explaining its purpose as good fellowship, inspiration to Christian living and service, and as compensation for those unable to attend the Asheville conference called a few weeks ago by Bishop Buzon. Spirituality and evangelism were stressed throughout the program, and a strong plea made for sacrificial giving that there might be no further retrenchment of the work of the church either in home or in foreign fields.

The following interesting program was rendered: Devotions, Rev. H. R. Cornelius. Echoes from the Asheville Conference, Rev. Wade Johnston. Evangelism, Dr. R. P. Walker. Preparation for Easter, W. G. McFarland.

Dr. Walker, pastor of the Waynesville Presbyterian church, laid aside his Presbyterian dignity and expressed himself as being ready "to shout with the Methodists."

At 5 o'clock the ladies of the church, under the leadership of the Woman's Missionary Society, served tea. After forty minutes of social pleasure the conference again assembled in the church auditorium for a vesper service, led by J. H. Carper of Murphy.

Mrs. C. N. Clark of Canton, former president of the Virginia Woman's Missionary conference, made a very earnest plea for missions.

The music, led by the choir, was a very enjoyable feature of the program.

The afternoon was marred only by the absence of the Franklin pastor, Rev. O. P. Ader, who was confined at home by sickness, and Mrs. Ader, who must be at his bedside. After the conference adjourned a quarterly conference was called by the presiding elder. At this meeting a vacation was given to the pastor in which to recuperate.

CHEVROLET HAS LOCAL AGENCY Show Room Established in Franks Building on Main Street

An official Chevrolet automobile agency has been established in Franklin, with show room, office and shop in the Franks building on east Main street, where new Chevrolet models are now on display.

Known as the Franklin Chevrolet company, it is backed by O. E. Flor, C. C. Kimsey and S. F. Wood, of Cornelia, Ga.; who also operate Chevrolet agencies at Cornelia, Clayton and Hiawassa, Ga. The company will act as official dealer in Macon county for Chevrolet automobiles and parts. W. C. Byrrell, of Clayton, will be sales manager and Earl English, formerly of Clayton, will have charge of the repair department. Mr. Byrrell is well known to Franklin people. Mr. English has been associated with the Chevrolet shop in Clayton and also has seen factory service.

Show Coming "Sweet Family" To Be Given By Methodists

A rollicking comedy, "The Sweet Family," will be presented at 8 o'clock Saturday night in the courthouse by the ladies of the Methodist church. A laugh is promised for all who attend.

Admission fees of 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children will be charged, the proceeds to be devoted to the Methodist church. The cast includes: "Ma" Sweet—Mrs. Howard Valentine. Ariminty Ann Sweet—Mrs. Thomas Johnston, Jr. Betsy Belindy Sweet—Mrs. Claude Russell. Caroline Cordelia Sweet—Mrs. B. S. Connelly. Dorothy Delilah Sweet—Mrs. Wiley A. Rogers. Elizabeth Eliza Sweet—Mrs. T. W. Angel, Jr. Frances Fedory—Mrs. A. B. O'mohundro. Glorianna Gadabout—Mrs. C. L. Cartledge. Hattie Hortense—Mrs. Don Young. Imadume Imeline—Mrs. John Herbert Stone.

Bruce Webb To Address Cartoogechaye Club

A meeting of the Cartoogechaye community 5 and 10 Year Farm club has been called for 2:30 o'clock Friday afternoon, March 31, at the Slagle school by the Rev. S. R. Crockett, president of the club. Bruce Webb, of the Asheville Citizen-Times, one of the originators of the 5 and 10 Year Farm program, is scheduled to address the club.

MORE FEDERAL LOANS LIKELY Few Losses Suffered on Crop Advances Last Year, Williams Says

Treks back to the old farms, due to loss of jobs in the city, combined with increased acreage designed to offset lower prices, will double the number of applicants for federal crop loans in western North Carolina this year, said Silas S. Williams, of Waynesville, federal agent now making his final swing through the 10 mountain counties, passing on applications. Mr. Williams said a preliminary survey shows that the total amount sought will be more than double that of one year ago. Then it was \$25,000, distributed among 515 borrowers. This year the federal agent expects to approve loans for about \$60,000 to be distributed among about 1,050 farmers. All applications for loans must be in by April 30, the advances being made for six months, and covered by first liens on the crops. Buncombe county with 125 applicants, was the heaviest borrower last year, with Cherokee and Macon counties the lightest, each with less than 25. This year Buncombe and Madison counties are expected to tie for heavy demands, with 200 applicants each. Anticipated requests from other counties are: Jackson 150; Transylvania and Haywood, 100 each; Graham county 75, and Cherokee, Clay, Macon and Swain counties, trailing with 50 each.

Some of the loans sought are for as little as \$10, Mr. Williams said. The maximum allowed is \$300, but last year only one farmer in all the 10 counties asked this amount. This was a tobacco raiser in Buncombe. He got his loan, and paid it back promptly. But this year, he is asking the limit again.

"Almost undoubtedly he'll get it, too," said Mr. Williams. "Farmers may default on loans on land, but crop loans, almost invariably, are repaid the first possible minute. Out of millions loaned all over the country, last year, only two per cent, failed to meet their obligations in full, and half of these failures were due to sickness, or some valid reason. As to the 10 counties of western North Carolina that I cover, not a single farmer defaulted in full. Some of them still owe slight balances, but they've all cut down their debts, and they'll pay the rest."

Claimed by Death

Britton Stiles Succumbs To Heart Attack

Britton Stiles, 70, died suddenly from a heart attack at his home at Hickory Knoll, Tuesday morning. Funeral services were held at the Coweta Baptist church at 2 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. Members of the Otto and Franklin Councils of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, and were in charge of the services at the grave. Interment was in the Rush cemetery. Mr. Stiles is survived by his widow, two daughters, Mrs. C. C. Cypher, of Franklin, and Mrs. James Browning, of Hickory Knoll; and two sons, Elbert Stiles, of Franklin, and John Stiles, of Sylva.

\$20,000 EMBEZZLEMENT CHARGED

Alleged to have confessed to a \$20,000 embezzlement of the funds of the Gastonia First National bank, Thomas B. Carpenter 30, cashier, is held under \$15,000 bond for federal court.

IS KILLED BY HIS MULE

Unhitching his team to get it out of a bog, Charles M. Thornburg, farmer of near Newton, became entangled in the harness of a mule last Friday. The animal bolted, ran half a mile and dragged Thornburg to his death.

System To Revert To Town April 1

Co-op Poultry Sale Called for Next Week

A cooperative car lot poultry sale will be held at the Franklin depot next Tuesday and at Otto between 9 and 11 a. m. Wednesday, it was announced today by F. S. Sloan, county agent. He said the following prices would be paid: Heavy hens, 8 cents; Lagoon hens, 8 cents; fryers, 16 cents; roosters and geese, 5 cents; ducks, 7 cents; stags, 9 cents; turkeys, 10 cents; eggs, 2 1-3 cents per dozen.

Fighters Fined

2 Johnsons and 2 Angels Resort to Fists

Charged with simple assault as the result of a fist fight back of The Press office last Thursday morning, four young men were fined \$1 each, with judgment suspended until May 2, in Mayor's court Saturday morning. The defendants were W. Cantey Johnson and Dr. Edgar Angel, who were paired in one fight, and Blackburn W. Johnson and T. W. Angel, Jr., who were paired in another bout. John Henry, principal witness at the hearing, testified that it was "as fair a fighting as I ever saw and I've seen a good many fights."

Sponsor Movie

Juniors To Present Grid Film Next Week

Sponsored by the junior class of the Franklin high school, "The All-American," a thrilling motion picture football drama, will be shown at the Macon Theatre Friday, March 31, and Saturday, April 1. This tremendously interesting gridiron picture presents more than a score of famous football stars in hard-fought football games, including the 1931 All-American team. It also tells a swift-moving love story, filled with dramatic incidents and novel situations. Among the football heroes seen in action are "Red" Cagle (Army), Ernie Nevers (Stanford), Albie Booth (Yale), Archie Schwartz (Notre Dame), Jerry Dalrymple (Tulane), Gaius Shave (Southern California), Frank Carideo (Notre Dame), and many others whose names are household words. The acting cast of "All-American" is headed by Richard Arlen. Two shows will be given each night, the first starting at 7:30, and a matinee at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Admission charges will be 25 cents for adults and 15 cents for children at the night shows and 20 cents for adults and 10 cents for children at the matinee. Proceeds will be used to defray the expenses of the banquet to be given by the junior class for the members of the senior class.

Harold Stewart Entered In Speaking Contest

A district public speaking contest for students of vocational agriculture will be held in the courthouse at Asheville, Friday at 3:30 o'clock. Harold Stewart, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Stewart, of the Coweta section, will represent the agriculture class from the Franklin high school. The elimination contest for the local class was held last Monday, when 23 boys entered. Only one student from each school will speak at Asheville, and the winner from Asheville will go to Raleigh in June to enter the state contest.

Utilities Company Unable To Meet Payment Soon Due

Notice that the Franklin hydro-electric power plant, with \$288,000 in bonds outstanding against it, would be turned back on the town on April 1 was served on the town council last Thursday night by O. G. Martino, vice president of East Coast Utilities, Inc. Details of the transfer and plans for operation of the electric power system by the town have not been worked out; but the power company already has notified employees that their services will terminate soon and has begun to wind up its affairs here.

Can't Meet Bonds

Mr. Martino told the council that the Northwest Carolina Utilities, Inc., which operates the local plant as a subsidiary of the East Coast company, was unable to meet a bond payment of \$8,100 due April 1 and had decided to let the plant revert to the town. The bond payment automatically falls on the town, which comes into possession of a surety deposit of \$23,000 held in trust in the form of government bonds by the Central Hanover Bank and Trust company of New York, to whom the bonds are payable. The town also has a claim against a defunct bank in Cleveland and a surety company in New York, also defunct, for \$50,000, part of the original surety bond.

Other Payments

Besides the \$8,100 payment due on the power plant bonds April 1, all of which is for interest, two other payments fall due this year. On June 1 a principal payment of \$500 and an interest payment of \$540 will become due; on October 1 \$5,000 principal and \$8,100 interest will be payable. So, it is seen, the town's surety deposit is barely sufficient to meet bond payments due this year, unless it can recoup all or part of the \$50,000 tied up in the closed Standard Trust Bank of Cleveland. Legal action already has been started against the bank and its bonding company, Lloyd's Casualty company of New York, for recovery of this money.

There has been some talk of the advisability of the town selling the power plant again; but as yet, according to Mayor George B. Patton, no offer has been received. It is thought that before a sale could be consummated a town election would be necessary. The town council intends to begin operation of the plant as soon as it reverts to the town; but most of the councilmen are inclined to leave the formulation of definite policies to the new council to be elected in May.

Lost \$10,000

Mr. Martino told the councilmen that the Franklin power system was operated at a loss of \$10,000 last year. In round figures, the company's gross business for the year was \$26,000 and its net earnings \$12,000, but the net fell far short of meeting bond payments which fell due.

The power company already has started pressing for collection on its accounts as of March 11, threatening to cut off customers' current unless they pay in a few days. Many of the customers have been incensed at this pressure and have told the power company to go ahead and cut their power off . . . and, then, wait for payment of their bills.

The power company has notified Carl Bingham, in charge of the generating plant, and Ted Gribble, lineman, that their services will not be needed after April 1. J. Homer Bowles, manager, has been asked to continue on until May 1 to help wind up the company's affairs.