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WORK RELIEF COMING SOON

Compromise Seen on Bonus; Washington News Reviewed

(Special to The Press-Maconian)
WASHINGTON, March 28.—Congress will give President Roosevelt the \$4,880,000,000 he has asked for his work relief program, but it is likely some strings will be attached. Predictions in Washington are that the measure will go through the latter part of this week or sometime next week. Indications are that payment of prevailing wages will be required on permanent government work, but that wage scales on other projects will be left largely to the president's discretion, although neither the American Federation of Labor nor certain business organizations look with favor on this compromise.

Little likelihood is seen of spending all of the huge appropriation in the year beginning July 1, as planned. Doubt, therefore, increases as to the possibility of greatly reducing the direct cash relief system—the "dole." The theory was that the federal work relief program would employ all who are able to work, and that the states would take care of the unemployable. Disclosure that the states have, many of them, done nothing to speak of, makes the feasibility of this plan questionable. Several states have contributed only from one to five per cent of the relief expenditures inside their boundaries.

Pensions and the NRA

Congresswoman Isabella Greenway of Arizona, who was, incidentally, one of Mrs. Roosevelt's bridesmaids at the wedding 30 years ago this Saint Patrick's day just past, has lined up a strong opposition to the passage of the so-called "social security" bill, which all agree is a confused jumble of unrelated things. Mrs. Greenway's plan is to enact an old-age pension bill applying only to the indigent aged who are now on relief, or

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Title Office Workers Given Indefinite Leave

Employees in the title office of the Nantahala National Forest, five or six in number, were notified this week to take an indefinite leave of absence beginning April 1. The leave, however, is expected to be only temporary, as it is thought likely that the office will be called upon to resume its activities as soon as the administration's work relief bill is enacted.

All employees in other departments of the forest service here are expected to continue working, although some uneasiness has been felt on account of the congressional situation. John Herbert Stone, supervisor of the Nantahala Forest, said Wednesday that he had received no instructions to curtail activities or put employees on leave. The instructions to the title office do not affect the forest's large acquisition crew.

McClure Recovering After Removal of Eye

Charles McClure, former county commissioner, underwent an operation Sunday at his home on Route 2 for the removal of one of his eyes. The operation was performed by Dr. Furman Angel. Mr. McClure was reported Thursday to be recovering. He had been suffering from an ophthalmic disorder for some time.

Sam Roane, who was seriously ill last week from acute indigestion, is able to be out again.

George Porter, of Andrews, was among the business visitors here Wednesday.

Tanks Full New Pump Banishes Fear Of Water Shortage

A new electric water pump was installed last Friday to replace an obsolete one formerly used to pump water from the town well on east Main street. The well then was thoroughly cleaned and by Monday the new pump was performing so efficiently that the two reservoir tanks on Harrison avenue were filled for the first time in weeks.

A ban on washing automobiles which had been in effect for about ten days was immediately lifted by the town authorities.

After a preliminary test had shown that, with the new pump, the well was yielding approximately 35 gallons of water a minute, George Dean, town clerk, said there should be little fear of a water shortage in Franklin this summer.

With the old pump the east Main street well supplied approximately 20 gallons a minute. The west Main street well is the town's chief source of water supply, yielding approximately 68 gallons a minute.

The new pump, a Pomona Rotary, was bought by the town council on trial. It has self-regulating equipment, is powered by a 15 horsepower motor. It was bought through the McBurney, Stoker Equipment company, of Atlanta, and the price was \$1,420 installed. The council plans to pay for it out of a small surplus fund realized in connection with its power plant deals.

SCOUTS WILL RUN FRANKLIN

To Take over Reins of Local Government Saturday

BY REV. FRANK BLOXHAM
Franklin Scoutmaster

March 29th is the second anniversary of the founding of the present troop of Boy Scouts in Franklin. Permission has been given for the boys to fill the town offices for a while on Saturday afternoon, and at the Troop meeting on Friday the boys will be elected to fill the various town officers, positions from mayor to scavenger. This experiment will prove of untold value in furthering the training of the boys in good citizenship and giving them an insight into the ramifications of city government.

In connection with the anniversary, a father and son banquet is being planned for Thursday of next week when speeches will be given by prominent Scouters from Asheville. This will be held in the Rotary Hall. A Scout play will be given in the courthouse on Friday, April 5 at 8 p. m. Further announcements of these functions will appear next week.

The attention of all is directed to exhibits of Scout work and collections to be found in the window of Perry's Drug Store.

Browning Asks Rpeal Of Absentee Law

Repeal of the absentee ballot law in Macon, Swain and Graham counties is sought in a bill introduced in the legislature by Senator Vance A. Browning, of Bryson City. Ed Hyle, Republican representative from Cherokee county, was reported desirous of having his county included in the measure; but the Democratic organization of that county was said to be opposed to any such action.

Although there has been considerable agitation for abolition of the absentee ballot, legislative committees have been extremely slow in reporting out either local or statewide bills to do away with the system.

Many Workers Find Jobs As Spring Brings Spurt In Building Activities

The sound of saw and hammerings throughout Macon county as spring brings with it a spurt in building and repairing activities.

At Highlands, one of the South's foremost resort centers, where considerable work has been going on all winter, other construction projects are now getting under way with indications that carpenters, masons and other building laborers will be kept busy all spring and summer. Outstanding construction job there is a new \$12,500 three-story brick and stone hotel being erected for Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Edwards by Wilton H. Cobb, contractor. Walls of the building, a handsome structure with native stone trim, have been completed and it is expected that the hotel will be ready for occupancy by the opening of the summer tourist season. On the main floor will be a spacious lobby and dining room, and there will be 12 bed rooms and baths on the upper floors. The new building will be a complete unit in itself, affording Highlands a modern year-round hotel, but it will be connected with the frame building occupying an adjoining lot which has been operated as an inn for some years.

In Franklin work is expected to start in a week or so on a \$100,000 federal building, which will house the postoffice and provide office space for the headquarters staff of the Nantahala National Forest.

Workers Busy Here

Although no new construction work of major proportions is now under way in Franklin, building trades workers are being kept busy on various repair and modernization jobs. J. E. Perry has just completed redecorating and painting his home on highway 286. Mrs. Lassie Kelly Cunningham is making changes in Kelly's Tea House that will add four more rooms. She also is planning to enclose in glass the spacious side porch used as a summer dining room. The Porter house on Bidwell street is undergoing a thorough renovation and is being repainted. Jule Robinson is making various repairs to Dixie Hall. The McCoy building on Main street was recently repaired. Various home owners are reported painting and redecorating their residences.

Erecting Stone Residence

Mr. and Mrs. I. T. Peek are erecting on their lot on the old Georgia road an attractive bungalow, using river stones in the walls. Considerable construction work also is reported in the rural sections of the county. Quite a number of new barns and some new homes have been reported.

EDWARDS SENT TO ASHEVILLE

John W. Edwards, formerly of Franklin, has been promoted to deputy United States marshal of the western district of North Carolina and transferred from Bryson City to Asheville, where he will serve as payroll clerk for the federal courts of the district.

Mr. Edwards was appointed deputy marshal following the death in Sylva Tuesday of Nelson L. Sutton, 67, of Sylva, who on account of illness had been on a leave of absence for several months. Mr. Edwards had been serving as acting deputy marshal since January 13, with headquarters in Bryson City.

Now that Mr. Edwards has gone to Asheville to serve as payroll clerk for federal district courts, he will be succeeded at Bryson City by Fred York, formerly connected with the marshal's office in Asheville.

Quite a number of new barns and some new homes have been reported.

Hundreds of men who had been employed only part of the time for many months are now back on the job, and hardware and building supply dealers are enjoying a revival of business.

Thousands Being Spent

It is estimated that construction work in the county this year, including the federal building in Franklin, will run well over \$200,000. If the administration's work relief bill, carrying appropriations of \$4,880,000,000, is enacted, it is very possible that the building bill will exceed this estimate. It is understood that plans for two more Civilian Conservation Camps in the county, one at the Coweeta Experiment station and the other in the Cowee section, are awaiting final action on this bill.

New Homes Planned

Among those who are now building homes at Highlands or have announced that they intend to build are:

David Black, of Atlanta, Ga., who is building on Satulah Mountain; Fred McGonigal, of Atlanta, who is building on Little Yellow Mountain; the Klines on Little Yellow Mountain; the Floyds on the Country Club property; and two new cottages by the owners of the Country Club property. The Brewers, of Charlotte, will build this spring; Dr. Fred Hodgson will also build this spring; Helen's Barn, a dance hall which burned last fall, is being rebuilt; Professor Holmes, of Clemson College and R. B. Lawrence, of Seneca, S. C., are building on Mirror Lake property. Frank B. Cook, Highlands real estate dealer, has announced that he will build on his Bearpen Mountain development; the Harrises will also build on Bearpen Mountain; Robert Rogers is starting three or four new cottages on his Dillard road property; the Apleys, of Coral Gables, Fla., have purchased 10 acres of the Hill property and will build a summer home; F. A. and W. W. Edwards will build on the Pierson development off East Main street; Judge Harry McCall is making improvements on his property; improvements are being made on The Martin, a summer hotel.

The Sinclair Refining company is erecting a new automobile service station in Highlands on the lot on Main street opposite the Masonic hall, which was leased from J. D. Burnette. The cost is estimated at approximately \$2,500.

Singing Convention To Be Held Here Sunday

The Macon County Fifth Sunday Singing convention will be held at the courthouses Sunday. The program is scheduled to last all day.

Classes, quartets and solos from all sections of the county are expected to be present, also singers from Haywood, Jackson, Swain, Clay and Graham counties, and from South Carolina.

Roy Carpenter Attends Auto Dealers Meeting

W. Roy Carpenter, manager of the Franklin Service Station and local Chrysler and Plymouth agent, returned Wednesday from Charlotte, where he attended a meeting of Chrysler and Plymouth automobile dealers.

Lefler Conducting Meetings at Salem Church

The Rev. B. W. Lefler, pastor of the Franklin Methodist circuit, is holding a two-weeks series of special meetings at Salem church in the Callasaja section. The public is invited to attend.

CONTRACT LET FOR POSTOFFICE

Work on \$100,000 Structure May Get Under Way Next Week

Work on Franklin's hundred-thousand-dollar federal building is expected to get under way in the near future, probably next week.

Contract for the building has been let, Postmaster T. W. Porter was informed in a letter yesterday, but the name of the successful contractor was not given. Bids on the project were opened on March 8 in the procurement division of the public works branch of the U. S. treasury.

Lot Being Cleared

The letter to Mr. Porter, who is custodian of the lot on East Main street which was bought by the government as a site for the federal building, requested information to when the property would be cleared and ready for the contractor to start work. Mr. Porter wired officials that the lot would be cleared Monday morning. The residence on the property formerly occupied by Alex Moore and family was being demolished and moved away this week. Thursday morning the structure had been razed to the floor joists.

The procurement division is now advertising for bids on an elevator for the building.

Plan of Building

Plans for the federal building call for a two-story red brick and cast stone structure with a basement. Ground dimensions are to be 62 by 61 feet. The dimensions of the lot, sold to the government by the Town of Franklin for \$4,000, are 103 feet (on Main street) by 155 feet. The building is to be set back five feet from the present sidewalk. The style of architecture is to be a modern adaptation of the Georgian.

In the basement of the building will be a steam heating plant, work and storage rooms, including a dry-proofed stamp vault, and a truck loading stand at the rear, which will be connected with a mail sorting room on the main, or first, floor by an elevator.

On the main floor will be a spacious public lobby with tile flooring, a large mail sorting room, a fireproof vault for storing records and funds, sanitary accommodations, and an office for the postmaster.

On the second floor will be five large offices for the forest service and an office for postal inspectors. The office space was based on normal needs of the Nantahala Forest headquarters rather than on present requirements.

Homer Nichols Transferred to Florida

Homer Nichols, executive assistant in the headquarters office of the Nantahala National Forest, has been ordered transferred to Tallahassee, Fla., effective April 1. Walter B. Dillon, formerly of Hot Springs, Ark., arrived here this week to succeed Mr. Nichols.

Four national forests in the vicinity of Tallahassee have recently been consolidated. In his new assignment Mr. Nichols will occupy a position similar to the one he has held here.

John Earl Lancaster Wins College Honors

Friends and former teachers of John Earl Lancaster, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lancaster, of Franklin, will be interested in learning that he has won a place on the debating team of Maryville College, Maryville, Tenn., and that he made the college honor roll for the first semester. His grades were the highest in the freshman class and third highest in the college. John Earl is a native of Macon county and a graduate of the Franklin high school.