

# The Franklin Press

and  
The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE

LIBERAL

INDEPENDENT

VOL. LI, NO 2

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, JAN. 9, 1936

\$1.50 PER YEAR

## CREDIT GROUP MEETS JAN. 17

Big Crowd Expected at  
Annual Meeting  
In Asheville

Special to The Press-Maconian)  
ASHEVILLE, Jan. 7.—A very large crowd of farmers is expected to attend the annual meeting of the Asheville Production Credit Association serving the counties of Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Avery, Madison, Mitchell, McDowell, Swain, Transylvania, and Yancy, which will be held in the Buncombe county courthouse at Asheville at 11 a. m. Friday, January 17, according to W. H. Overall, Secretary.

Annual reports of the officers will be made and two directors will be elected. One of the speakers will be Mr. Gardner, vice-president of the Production Credit Corporation of Columbia.

Not only are all of the members invited and expected to be present at the meeting, Mr. Overall said, but a cordial invitation is also extended to all non-members who are interested in securing short-term credit for production purposes.

"Our association is anxious that every farmer in our territory shall have the opportunity of knowing of the credit service which we have to offer," said Mr. Overall, "and we are anxious that they shall attend this annual meeting to see how the business of the association is conducted.

"We will have complete reports of our year's work at the meeting and our members will be acquainted with all of the details of our operation. It is the policy of our association to keep our members thoroughly posted.

"We feel proud of the record which we have made in the two years in which we have operated. Our business the second year showed a very substantial growth over the first year and we are anticipating another substantial increase next year as more and more farmers learn of the service we have to offer."

## Meeting Called To Form Basketball Team

A meeting of basketball players has been called by Ralph Bryson for 6 p. m. Saturday of this week at Schulman's Department Store for the purpose of organizing a Franklin All Star team. If enough likely material reports, Mr. Bryson said, a team will be organized immediately and proceed to Clayton to play the All Star team of that community at 8 o'clock the same night. He urged all interested to attend and to come prepared to begin action on the court.

## Funeral Held For Miss Josephine Edwards

Miss Josephine Edwards, 49, died Saturday morning after an illness of several months. Funeral services were conducted by the Rev. B. W. Lefler at the Iotla Methodist church at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Miss Edwards had been a member of the Iotla church since early childhood.

Surviving Miss Edwards are her mother, Mrs. Philip Edwards; three sisters, Miss Fannie Edwards, of Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. Lewellyn Taylor, of Demorest, Ga.; and Miss Ethel Edwards, of Franklin; and six brothers, Harley, Fred, Harve, George, Harry, and Frank Edwards, all of Franklin.

A sweet young thing in distress came in and said: "I've broken my glasses. Do I have to be examined all over again?"

"No," said the oculist, "Just your eyes."

## P. O. Finished

But Date of Opening Not  
Yet Announced

Franklin's new federal building stood completed this week, but officials of the Franklin postoffice and the Nantahala National Forest were not certain today when they would be able to move into the structure.

Arrival of an inspector to pass upon the building has been expected since last Saturday, but he has not yet appeared. Most of the furniture and fixtures already have arrived, but a shipment of coal for the heating system is still awaited.

The post office will occupy the basement and main floor, while the forest service will have offices on the second floor.

Postmaster T. W. Porter posted a notice today requesting all boxholders to apply at the new postoffice between 9 a. m. and 12 or between 1 p. m. and 3:30 p. m. Friday or Saturday to pay their box rent and be assigned new boxes. Those wishing to retain their old box numbers, he stated, apply on these dates and pay their rents in advance.

Hope was expressed that the new building would be ready for occupancy by the middle of next week.

## DEATH CLAIMS MRS. SIMPKINS

Stroke of Paralysis Fatal;  
Funeral Held at  
Cowee

Final rites for Mrs. Catherine Simpkins, 72, formerly of this county, who died at 5:40 p. m. Tuesday at her home in West Asheville, were held at noon today at the Cowee Baptist church. Mrs. Simpkins' death followed a stroke of paralysis 10 days earlier.

Mrs. Simpkins, a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Bryson, of West's Mill, had lived in West Asheville for 20 years; but she visited relatives in this county frequently and always maintained the ties with the people of her home community, West's Mill. She was the widow of E. C. Simpkins.

Funeral services were conducted Tuesday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the West Asheville Baptist church by the pastor, the Rev. J. A. Ivey, and the body was returned to the home. This morning it was brought to the Cowee Baptist church for the final rites and burial. The Rev. Mr. Ivey officiated, assisted by the Rev. D. C. McCoy and the Rev. W. L. Bradley, both of Oak Grove.

Pallbearers were T. B. Dutton, Foster Eller, J. N. Arthur, J. B. Boyd, T. H. Siler and E. S. Holcomb, of Asheville.

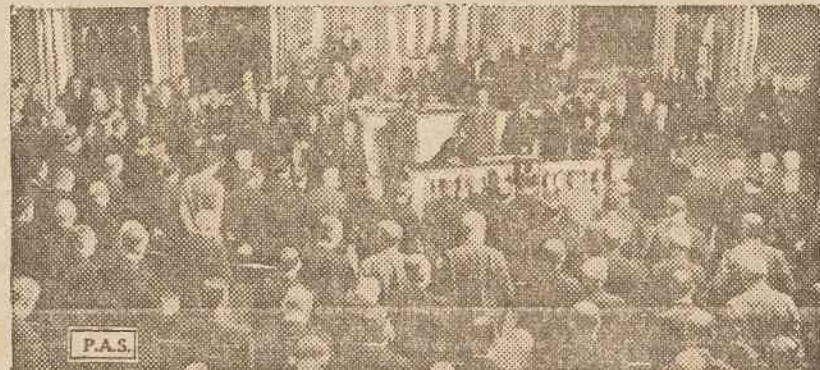
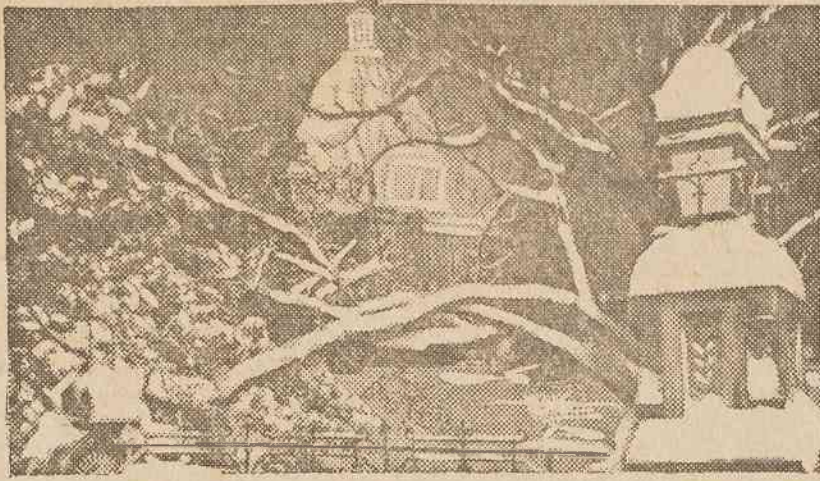
Mrs. Simpkins was a member of the West Asheville Baptist church.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. R. R. Adair, of Asheville, and Mrs. W. W. Hunter, of Augusta, Ga.; two sons, J. C. Simpkins of Asheville, and James L. Simpkins, of Seattle, Wash.; and four brothers, T. C. Bryson, of West's Mill; A. J. Bryson, of New York; George T. Bryson, of Atlanta, Ga.; and R. L. Bryson of Spruce Pine.

None of the brothers was able to attend the funeral. T. C. Bryson is recovering from influenza and R. L. and George T. Bryson both were reported critically ill at their homes. The brother living in New York was unable to come.

Tulsa, Okla.—Judge A. A. Hatchet had the last word—but not until after Mrs. Grace Carson had her say. The judge ordered her to stop talking in municipal court and when she didn't held her in contempt. She was detained an hour.

## Winter Comes To Seventy-Fourth Congress



WASHINGTON ... Winter in fact greeted members for the second session of the 74th Congress which convened for opening on January 3d. Upper photo is an unusual view of the national capitol, taken at dusk under its first mantle of snow of the season. Lower picture shows members of the House standing as the chaplain delivered the opening prayer

## Ray Defends Tax Measure; Can't Understand Why It Has Blocked Refunding

The following letter was submitted to The Press-Maconian Monday by J. Frank Ray, Macon county's representative in the General Assembly:  
Editor of Press:

The following is my answer to the law I passed in the Legislature limiting the tax levy to one dollar and I will appreciate it if you will publish same.

The heavy bonded indebtedness which you mentioned in your article was incurred between the years 1909 and 1929. At no time since 1909 up until this law was passed have I heard of any bondholders of the county showing any willingness to refinance their bonds. I had in mind at the time I enacted this law to provide ways and means by which the right of the bondholders and taxpayers of Macon county could be equitably adjusted, also having in mind the heavy burden of taxation under which the taxpayers of this county were laboring, and realizing that a great number of the population of the county was living on farms, and that very few manufacturing establishments were in the county and that for the past several years the income from farms had not been sufficient to enable the taxpayers to support themselves and families, save their homes and pay the heavy bonded indebtedness of the county.

### Regarding Law Suits

Now, you infer that by reason of this law that the bondholders have instituted two law suits against the county for collection of matured bonds. There have been two law suits instituted against the county, but I contend that this law did not have one thing whatever to do with it because in several counties in this state where this law does not exist there have been suits instituted for the same purpose.

You stated that the bondholders refused to refinance by reason of the tax levy under my law, and in the next breath you say they have started two law suits to collect on bonds. Your reasoning in this respect is all out of line, because it would be absurd for the bondholders to institute a law suit to collect on their bonds when right

in the face of the law they could not collect if a recovery was had in the Court, as you say the bondholders admit they can not refinance under the present law. You are trying to keep the cake and eat it too.

Under this law the county commissioners must find as a fact, after the 1936 levy that the economical emergency still exists, then if they find it does not exist they can levy a tax as in former years.

The \$34,500 principal and \$69,860 interest which you state this county is in default all occurred before the tax levy was made under my law, and this law had nothing whatever to do with the default.

I did not legislate for any particular group or groups but tried to do my best for the benefit of all, I believe in fairness and equity to all concerned.

I still contend that it is possible to refinance under the present law if the bondholders would agree to do so.

Yours truly,  
J. FRANK RAY

## Dividends

Now Being Paid by Local  
Farm Federation

Macon county stockholders of the Farmers Federation, Inc., which on December 14 established a branch warehouse and store in Franklin, will share with other stockholders of the farmers cooperative organization in its semi-annual dividend according to the announcement received from James G. K. McClure, president and general manager.

The dividend, at the rate of six per cent a year, was recently declared by the federation's board of directors. It is payable to all stockholders of record December 15, 1935, which includes those in this county who had received their stock certificates at the time the federation opened its Franklin branch. The dividends are payable in cash, amounting to 30 cents on each \$10 share of stock.

Macon county stockholders may receive their dividends by applying to Lawrence Ramsey, manager of the local warehouse and store, located in the Franks building.

## DEATH CALLS

### C. A. LOWERY

Body Taken to Old Home  
In Tennessee for  
Burial

Charles A. Lowery, 76, well known farmer and former traveling salesman, died of an attack of heart disease at 11 o'clock Monday morning at his home several miles from Franklin on the Georgia road. He had been in ill health for more than a month but his death came unexpectedly.

Funeral services were held at the Franklin Presbyterian church at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon and then the body was taken to Madisonville, Tenn., Mr. Lowery's former home, for burial Wednesday.

### Came Here in 1914

Mr. Lowery, a native of Madisonville, in Monroe county, Tennessee, came to this county to live in 1914, but he was well known here for many years prior to that time. As a traveling salesman for the Carhart Grocery company, of Knoxville, Tenn., he visited Franklin frequently. In the early eighties, it was recalled this week by Dr. Frank T. Smith, he assisted the late R. L. Porter and the late Charles C. Smith, a brother of Dr. Smith, in financing the construction of the first telephone line to Franklin. The line, with one station here, in Mr. Porter's store in the Love building on Main street, connected Franklin with Dillsboro.

In 1908 Mr. Lowery was married to Mrs. Lelia J. Allison, of Waynesville, who survives him, together with a son-in-law, four grandchildren; a brother, W. R. Lowery, of Greenville, Tenn., and two sisters, Mrs. Alice Proffitt and Mrs. H. R. McGill, both of Maryville, Tenn.

### Devout Presbyterian

Mr. Lowery was a devoted member of the Presbyterian church and for a number of years was superintendent of the Presbyterian Sunday school in Franklin.

The funeral service here was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Flanagan, pastor of the Franklin Presbyterian church, assisted by the Rev. J. L. Teague, of Prentiss, retired Methodist minister.

Active pallbearers for the service here were A. L. Leach, Gus Leach, George Bulgin, John E. Rickman, W. T. Moore and John O. Harrison. Honorary pallbearers were: Dr. Frank T. Smith, J. M. Carpenter, J. E. Lancaster, Dr. W. A. Rogers, George T. Stiles, George Mashburn, W. B. McGuire and M. L. Dowdle.

## Broadway

Jerry and Tom Wilson are cutting wood for Cecil Headrick.

Frank Cabe spent Monday at the home of Andy Wilson.

Stella Wilson is spending a few days with her folks. She plans to return to Atlanta in a few days to spend the remainder of the winter.

We are glad to report that Miss Maud Wilson is getting along nicely after having been ill with pneumonia.

Dorothy Talley, small daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Talley, is recovering from influenza and pneumonia.

Snow fell to a depth of eight inches here Saturday, December 28, but rain last Thursday washed most of it away. The thermometer dropped to eight below zero here on Thursday and Friday, December 26 and 27. It was the coldest weather experienced here this winter. Temperatures have been much more moderate this week and there has been considerable rain.

Howard Keener was at the home of Andy Wilson Friday.

Miss Nellie Wilson is spending a few days with her sister, Mrs. Effie Talley.