

The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE

LIBERAL

INDEPENDENT

VOL. LIII, NO. 52

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 1938

\$1.50 PER YEAR

FOREST WORK SUMMARIZED

Accomplishments In 1938 Told In Report Of Supervisor

In a New Year letter mailed out this week Charles Melichar, supervisor of the Nantahala forest, graphically summarizes some of the accomplishments of the forest organization in this section during 1938.

Enclosed with the New Year letter was a mimeographed calendar for 1939 containing much valuable information arranged by dates in regard to fishing and hunting seasons, grazing, brush burning, recreation areas, etc. The calendar is well worth preserving for reference purposes.

The summary of 1938 activities is as follows:

Land Use Planning: Help was given to seven county agents in compiling a rough map showing the best use for the land in each county. It is the first step for properly planning any new developments by the county, state, and forest service.

Roads: Leatherman gravel road, running north from West's Mill, was completed. Rainbow Springs gravel road was completed. Dillard-Highlands road—the grade was completed under forest service supervision and the graveling was done under state contract. Black topping to be done before next summer's travel. Grade roughed-out for road around west side of Santetlah lake. Coweeta experimental forest roads extended several miles.

The WPA has been a great help in completing some of the roads too remote from CCC camps.

Telephone Lines: The Robbinsville line was extended six miles to keep up with the road construction crews.

Trails: About 60 miles of foot trails were constructed in Graham county for fire control and in the Fires Creek game area for patrol.

Employment: The Nantahala national forest provided useful work for the 600 boys in the three CCC camps which still remain on the forest at Otto, Aquone, and Robbinsville. Wayah Depot expanded with the addition of a new wood-working shop, making truck cab parts and trailers for use in the Southern forests. The Southern Regions' sign shop is still at the Depot, constantly improving in the quality and the variety of signs produced. About 30 men on WPA were employed for most of the year on recreation developments. So the Nantahala forest continues as a direct source of work for some 700 people, as well as growing timber for sale which provides additional work for loggers.

Fire: An excellent fire record has been completed this year, with only 24 fires and a loss of 162 acres burned. Such a fine record would not be possible without the active cooperation we are receiving from you, the people, who live on the Nantahala. Everyone knows a charred forest attracts no tourists to his community. Likewise, each magistrate who sat in judgment on a fire case during the year has shown a keen desire to uphold the state fire laws. With such good cooperation, you are helping make a splendid record.

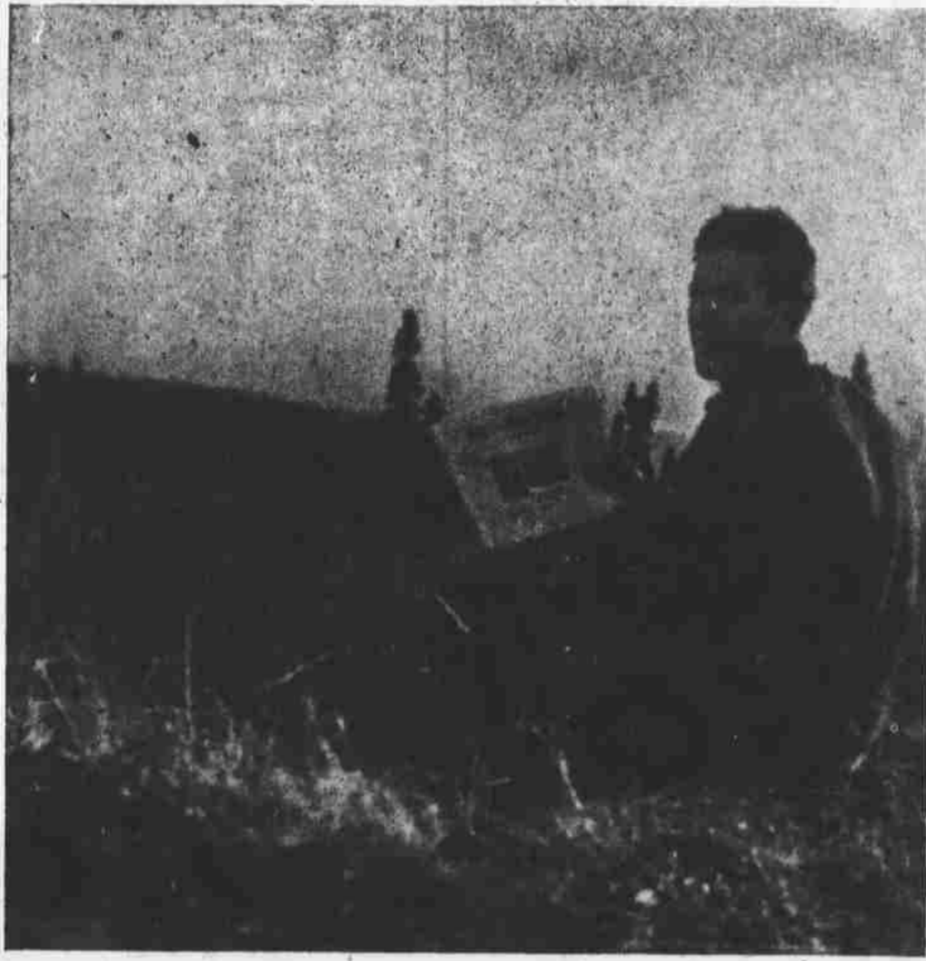
Wildlife: The deer turned loose last year have done well and the pride taken in "their" deer by the majority of the citizens living near the refuges, is very encouraging. We hope they will be the first to profit from the organized hunts in

(Continued on Page Eight)

No Presbyterian Services Sunday

The Rev. J. A. Flanagan and family are visiting relatives in Columbia, S. C., this week, and it is announced that there will be no preaching service at the Presbyterian church next Sunday.

Where The Days Are Long



The above picture shows R. E. Berry, Macon county boy, sitting on a hillside at Central House, Alaska, and was taken at midnight on June 25, 1938, showing him reading his Franklin Press.

Mr. Berry is a son of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Berry, of Franklin Route 4, and a brother of Mrs. Earl Justice, deputy clerk of Macon superior court. He is employed by the C. J. Berry Gold Mining company, of California, and is a regular subscriber to The Franklin Press.

Central House is located about 40 miles from Fairbanks, where the winters are long and cold and the summers short and hot. For several months of the year the sun never gets entirely out of sight, and during other months it is seen only for a very short time each day. The thermometer frequently goes to 40 below zero, and the inhabitants are frozen in all winter, though mining work is carried on part of the time by the use of steam heating. Mail is carried in by plane and dog sledge.

J. M. Huggins

Passes At Home In Iotla Section Friday

James M. (Bud) Huggins, 80, well known farmer of the Iotla section, died last Friday night at his home following a long illness.

Mr. Huggins was a member of the Iotla Baptist church. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Huggins, of the Burningtown section.

Surviving are his widow, the former Miss Margaret Caroline Davis; three daughters, Mrs. Raymond Hulse, of Ontario, Cal., Mrs. Wayne McCracken, Franklin Route 4, and Mrs. Houghton Williams, of Franklin Route 3; one son, Ell Huggins, Franklin Route 4; eight grandchildren, and two sisters, Mrs. James Oliver and Mrs. Jane Dowdle, both of Franklin Route 2.

Funeral services were held Sunday morning at Iotla Baptist church, with the Rev. R. F. Mayberry, pastor, assisted by the Rev. Robert Poindexter, in charge. Burial was in Burningtown Baptist cemetery.

Coweet Basketball Team Wins From Holly Springs

In a game played in the Franklin high school gym on Wednesday night, the Coweet basketball team defeated the Holly Springs team by a score of 47 to 34. The Coweet team also won a game from Otto Monday night, 27 to 22.

Baptist Church Items

The pastor, Rev. C. F. Rogers will preach at 11 and 7:30. The morning theme to be, "Objectives for the New Year" and the evening message a continuation of the Half Hours With The Bible, the theme being, "The Book of Romans in the Light of the Old Testament," Chapter one.

Bible school study at 9:45, "The Call of Peter."

B. T. U. and Men's Brotherhood at 6:30 p. m.

Next week will be Missionary Week in our church activities.

CHRISTMAS WAS JOYOUS SEASON

Many Organizations Join In Providing Cheer For Needy

The needy and underprivileged of Macon county, young and old, were amply provided for during the Christmas season by various organizations and agencies.

The Christmas party sponsored by the American Legion on the afternoon of Christmas Eve was attended by about 455 children and their parents, and the youngsters were all sent home happy, loaded down with toys, fruits, candy, etc. A miniature electric train was kept running on a platform at the front of the court room and was a source of great enjoyment to the children.

The Legion and the ladies of the Legion Auxiliary are to be congratulated upon the success of this party, as the number of children exceeded the estimates by more than 150, but none were disappointed as Santa Claus had enough for all.

The Loyal Order of Moose provided a large number of baskets filled with many things for the pleasure and comfort of the aged throughout the county. These were distributed on Christmas Eve and brought happiness to many lonely homes.

The churches of the town cooperated in preparing and distributing gifts of fruit, candy, cigarettes and other things to all prisoners in the county prison camp, and various church organizations sent baskets to the inmates of the county home. In addition there were hundreds of gifts sent out to the needy by generous citizens of the town and county.

There was no disorder reported and no serious accidents, and it was a real season of good cheer and good will for the people of Franklin and Macon county.

Mrs. Lee Carpenter is spending several days in Atlanta with her husband.

Babson Forecast Indicates Better Business in 1939

Noted Financial Authority Expects 20 Per Cent Gain Over 1938—Greater Farm Income—More Jobs—No Adverse Legislation—War Not Likely for United States, England or France.

By Roger W. Babson

BABSON PARK, MASS., December 30.—Total business by the end of 1939 will be as good as—perhaps even better than—at any year-end since 1929. There may be periods when business will mark time, but the average volume for the year will be around 20 per cent above the 1938 level. Jobs, wages, retail sales, stocks, and even farm prices should all chalk up good-sized gains. It is even possible that the sharp peaks of early 1937 will be topped—but this is a pretty long shot. Considering all factors, I forecast that 1939 will be a year of moderate prosperity.

CLAPP JOINS CO-OP STAFF

Becomes Manager Of Seed Department Farmers Federation

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Dec. 28.—S. C. Clapp, head of the Mountain Experiment Station at Swannanoa



S. C. CLAPP

for nearly 22 years, has accepted a position as manager of the seed department of the Farmers Federation and will assume his new duties January 2, it was announced Tuesday by James G. K. McClure, president of the farm cooperative.

"We know of no man who has had wider experience in studying and observing the kinds of seeds needed on Western North Carolina farms," Mr. McClure commented.

Before becoming assistant director in charge of the Swannanoa test farm on February 1, 1917, Mr. Clapp for 10 years was a nursery and orchard inspector for the State department of agriculture.

"We feel," Mr. McClure added, "that the practical information which Professor Clapp has acquired through his many years of experience in farm experimental work should be made available to the farmers of this section. And we believe that as manager of the federation's seed department he will be in position to render a real service to thousands of our farmers."

In his new position Mr. Clapp will supervise the buying and handling of seeds for the farm cooperative. He will make regular visits to the federation's 18 warehouses to study the requirements of each county.

Having served on the federation's board of directors for some years, Mr. Clapp is thoroughly familiar with the organization's activities.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cabe and small daughter, of Otto, spent Christmas Day with Mr. Cabe's brother, Carl Cabe and Mrs. Cabe.

There are no "hedges" tacked on to my forecast as there were in several years past. In 1937, I feared that the sit-downers would upset the apple-cart. A year ago, Washington's inertia worried me. But today, I can see no reason why the tides of recovery should not carry us vigorously forward—perhaps even to new highs since 1929! This will merely be a continuation of the uptrend which began in 1932. Frankly, I do not consider the 1937-1938 Recession as anything more than a temporary, but sharp, interruption of the upward swing.

"Lost Horizon"

I emphasize this bit of "back history" because I believe it has an important bearing on confidence at the moment. Millions of people—as we get further and further away from 1929—look upon that year as setting a record which can never again be touched. As a result of the sharp ups-and-downs of the past decade, they have come to believe that hard times are now normal times in America. I disagree. I think that these people have lost their horizon! I do not believe that 1929 necessarily represents the pinnacle of American business.

It is true that some factors are less favorable than in 1929. Among them are taxes, bureaucracy, and lack of faith. We have, however, the following favorable items today:

1. Our population has grown 7,000,000 since 1929.
2. Thousands of new products have been invented.
3. Production efficiency has soared 50 per cent in 10 years.
4. A huge deferred demand for goods has piled up.
5. Credit reserves are the greatest in history.
6. Production costs are lower than last year.
7. Wholesale and retail inventories are relatively low.
8. Confidence is returning as "business baiting" lessens.
9. Billions will be spent on armaments and pump priming.
10. Building is on the threshold of a real boom.

Gradual Gains In Early Months

For these and other reasons, I believe that the forces of recovery are still predominant. Right now business stands at 99 on my Babsonchart compared with 84 a year ago. 1939 will open, therefore, with activity 18 per cent above the early days of 1938. Indications are that, as we work along through the first half of the year, business will register a slow but healthy gain over the January levels. The entire first half of the New Year should show a 25 per cent increase over the gloomiest months of early 1938.

The second half of 1939 should see a continuation of the gains. My forecast, however, is contrary to the expectations of many people. They look for business to taper off and even to slide backward when government pump priming ceases next May or June. Nevertheless, I am willing to predict that the second half of the year will be better

(Continued on Page Two)