



# The Franklin Press

and  
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## DEFENSE LAGS KNUDSEN SAYS

### Defense Billions Will Help Unemployment And Agriculture

Preparations for national defense thus far are "not satisfactory enough to warrant hopes that everything is all well," William S. Knudsen, production chief of the National Defense Advisory commission, warned the nation last week.

"The public generally is sold on defense," he said, "but have the two most important elements, industry and labor, been fully sold on the serious side of the job?"

Knudsen stated that the hoped-for production figures of 1,000 planes a month by January 1 would have to be scaled down by 30 per cent, although big guns, machine guns and tanks faced better prospects. Blaming lack of co-operation on the part of labor and industry for the delay, he pleaded for "more steam" and "speed and more speed—full-time operation of all machines."

### 35 Billion Dollars For Defense

The cost of the present defense program for the next five years was estimated at \$35,000,000,000 in a report by Department of Agriculture economist, titled, "The Impact of War and the Defense Program on Agriculture." The report placed the cost of defense at an average of \$7,000,000,000 a year; seven and one-half billion in 1941; nine billion in 1942; seven and one-half billion in 1943; six billion in 1944; and five billion in 1945.

### Higher Prices For Farm Products

The report predicted that defense spending will cut unemployment rolls in half by 1942 and that the indicated increase in purchasing power would be reflected in higher prices for most farm products, particularly meats, some fruits, dairy products and truck crops. The report said, however, farmers may find that most of the rise in farm income will be eaten up by probable advances in farm wages and material and equipment costs.

### War And Navy Reports

While Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau and Federal Loan Administrator Jones began discussions with British financial representatives concerning the financial status of that country the War Department released to Great Britain a "flashlight bomb," which makes possible the taking of aerial photographs at night even from high altitudes. Also formally released were 20 bombers of the flying fortress type.

The War Department estimated that by June 30, 1941 the United States Army will include 1,400,000 men as follows: Infantry, 290,000; Field Artillery, 141,000; Coast Artillery, including anti-aircraft, 131,000; Air Corps, 128,000; Medical Department, 76,000; Quartermaster Corps, 69,000; Corps of Engineers, 61,000; Cavalry, 29,000; Signal Corps, 29,000; Armored Corps, 22,000; Ordnance Department, 18,000; Chemical Warfare Service, 4,000; and Finance Department, 2,000.

In his annual report to the President, Secretary Knox declared the American people "may feel fully confident of their Navy. . . . In my opinion the loyalty, morale, and technical ability of the personnel are without superior. On any comparable basis the United States is second to none."

The report further stated that recent Congressional appropriations will finance the world's largest Navy; 645 combat vessels, including 33 battleships, 18 aircraft carriers, 91 cruisers, 325 destroyers and 185 submarines.

## Potts Named Chairman Of President's Birthday Parties In County

Dr. Julian Miller of Charlotte, state chairman of the President's birthday parties which will be held January 30 for the benefit of the infantile paralysis fund, announced this week that 54 county chairmen had been appointed and the remainder would be named in a few days.

Jack H. Potts was made county chairman for Macon.

Miller said that North Carolina is expected to raise around \$35,000 this year. One-half of the total amount raised will remain in North Carolina to be used for infantile paralysis cases.

## Wild Doe

### Makes Friends With Cows On Moore Farm

Apparently unable to find companions to its liking in the Wayah game management area, a doe has struck up a firm friendship with a herd of three dairy cows on the farm of Fred Moore at the entrance to Gibson cove on the Murphy highway.

The deer was first observed with the herd last summer and has rarely missed a day since. Possibly attracted by the sound of the cow bell as the herd grazes, it usually puts in its appearance around noon, leaping agilely over the pasture fence to join the cows. It spends the afternoon moving about over the pasture with the herd, disappearing into the woods for the night around 5 p. m.

Upon several occasions when the cows were in the barnyard lot, the doe has joined them there and followed them into the barn for the night.

It has grown tamer during its stay with the cows, and will now allow a human to come within 50 feet of it before moving off slowly. The Moores have avoided any attempts to domesticate it for fear that they might frighten it away.

Several times a buck with six-pointed antlers has appeared with the doe, and once was so bold as to join the doe and the cows in the barnyard lot. It is much wilder than the doe and flees at the first sign of a human being.

Mr. Moore thinks that he saw a fawn with the doe once last summer. The fawn has not reappeared since.

Incidentally, Mr. Moore points out that it is against the law to shoot a doe, and says that he will personally attend to anyone he catches nosing around the vicinity of the deer with a gun.

## Funeral Services Held For Mrs. F. M. Porter

Funeral services for Mrs. Florence Meroney Porter, 76, were held at the Franklin Methodist church here Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock.

The Rev. J. L. Stokes II, conducted the services assisted by the Rev. C. F. Rogers, pastor of the Franklin Baptist church, and the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, rector of St. Agnes Episcopal church. Burial was in the Franklin cemetery.

Mrs. Porter died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Worth McKinney, at 28 Washington road, Asheville, last Friday morning, following an illness of three months.

The daughter of the late Bailey B. and Martha Ann Welch Meroney, she was born in Murphy in 1864. In 1888 she was married to R. L. Porter of Franklin who preceded her in death a number of years ago.

Mrs. Porter was owner and proprietress of the Oak Hill Tourist camp near here for a long while, having lived in Franklin until about 10 years ago when she moved to Asheville. She was a member of the Franklin Methodist church for many years.

The active pallbearers were W. T. Moore, R. L. Porter, Jess S. Conley, Harry S. Higgins, Carl S. Slagle and Grover Lewis.

The honorary pallbearers included Dr. Frank T. Smith, Dr. W. A. Rogers, John O. Harrison, Gus Leach, Tom Leach, M. D. Billings and Robert A. Patton.

Surviving are a son, James D. Porter, of Bryson City; one daughter, Mrs. McKinney, of Asheville; two brothers, Dr. B. B. Meroney, of Murphy and W. H. Meroney, of Greensboro, and two sisters, Mrs. J. B. Sudderth, of Albuquerque, N. M., and Mrs. Robert L. Crooks, of Asheville.

## Forest Service Needs A Carpenter, Spray Painter

The United States Civil Service commission this week announced an open competitive examination for the positions of painter (spray gun), foreman carpenter, and carpenter for the purpose of filling vacancies in the Forest service here in Franklin.

The usual entrance salary for a spray gun painter is \$4 a day; for a foreman carpenter, \$5 a day when actually employed; and for a carpenter, \$4 a day when actually employed.

Applications for the positions must be on file with the manager, 4th U. S. Civil Service district, Washington, D. C., not later than January 11, 1941. Competitors will not be required to report for a written examination but will be rated on their training and experience.

Full information and application blanks may be obtained from the postoffice here.

## To be Uncle Sam's Guests



This is the latest portrait of Her Royal Highness, Princess Juliana of the Netherlands, and her two daughters, Princess Beatrix (left) and Princess Irene. Princess Juliana will be the guest of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House.

## Singing Convention Meets Sunday, Dec. 29

The fifth Sunday Singing Convention will meet in the Macon county courthouse on Sunday, December 29, at 10 o'clock, it has been announced by James M. Raby, president.

Mr. Raby stated that he expected singers to be present from Georgia and South Carolina. Also from Swain, Cherokee, Jackson, Clay, Hazelwood and Macon counties.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

## Draft Board Seeks Perry Epps Merritt

The local draft board is seeking to locate Perry Epps Merritt who, after being mailed a questionnaire, failed to fill it out and return it to the board.

Perry was last known to be working on the Nantahala dam. Anyone knowing his present address is asked to get in touch with the local board at its offices in

## As The World Turns

### A Brief Survey of Current Events In State, Nation and Abroad.

### CHRISTMAS IN BRITAIN

Christmas carols are being sung throughout Britain above the roar of bombs. In churches, social gathering places and in the underground air raid shelters is heard this strange mixture of joy and tragedy. Parallels in history are recalled when the early Christians gathered in the catacombs of Rome to escape their persecutors. Thus has the world turned backward.

### LONDON

In a surprise speech on Monday, Prime Minister Churchill addressed himself directly to the Italian people, King Victor Emmanuel and the army. He pleaded with them to overthrow Mussolini, whom he called a "criminal" who had left them only the "hard choice" of standing up to the might of the "British Empire or calling in "the hordes of Attila over the Brenna Pass" and the gestapo "to occupy, hold down and protect" Italy.

As the British had comparative quiet in London, with warning that Hitler may make an early invasion effort, RAF made the seventh heavy raid on Rhine munition and railway centers. River and railway traffic were seriously impeded and great destruction reported.

### ATHENS

The Greeks continue to advance in Albania, as their forces sweep closer to Valona, key port on the Adriatic closest to the heel of Italy's boot.

Mussolini's crack battalion of 800 men and 30 officers, veterans of other wars, were captured when the Greeks took Khimara, Fascist coastal base, south of Valona.

RAF and Italians fought the biggest aerial dogfight so far. Out-numbered five to one, RAF shot down 11 of 50 planes, losing two, over Argiostro.

### CAIRO, EGYPT

The British army of the Nile, with 36,000 Italian prisoners moved to the rear, prepared with reinforcements to close in on the port of Bardia in Libya and its 20,000 defenders. RAF reports air fighting which is augmented by the South African air force.

## PRESIDENT TO BROADCAST ON PRESENT EMERGENCY

President Roosevelt will address the people of the nation Sunday night, December 29, on the state of the defense program and on the administration's foreign policy in general, especially the Aid-To-Britain program.

His speech will be carried on all major networks from 9:30 to 10 p. m. (EST.)

## LORD HALIFAX APPOINTED BRITISH ENVOY TO U. S.

Lord Halifax, British foreign secretary, was appointed to what Prime Minister Churchill termed "the most important post any British citizen can fill outside this country," the ambassadorship to the United States. He succeeds the late Lord Lothian, who died in Washington, December 12.

Anthony Eden, whom Halifax succeeded in 1938, again becomes foreign secretary. A bitter opponent of "appeasement," Eden's appointment is expected to herald better relations with Soviet Russia.

## FOUR-MAN COMMITTEE TAKES CHARGE OF NATIONAL DEFENSE

Four men were personally selected by President Roosevelt Friday to form a defense "High Command" to take full charge of the task of arming America. They are: William S. Knudsen and Sidney Hillman of the present defense commission; Secretary of War Stimson and Secretary of the Navy Knox.

## SUPREME COURT INVALIDATES N. C. LICENSE TAX LAW

The Supreme Court on Monday invalidated the state's \$250 license tax on out-of-state retailers, and warned that inter-state commerce can hardly survive in so hostile an atmosphere "as that created by the levy."

## ADMIRAL LEAHY LEAVES FOR VICHY

Admiral Wm. D. Leahy, newly appointed U. S. Ambassador to France, sailed Monday with Mrs. Leahy aboard a naval cruiser from Norfolk to assume his new duties in Vichy, the present capital under Nazi domination.

## LONGEST CONGRESS IN HISTORY

Congress has passed its 354th day of continuous session, thus becoming the longest congress in the history of the United States. The old record of 354 days was set in 1917-18.

Rev. and Mrs. L. A. Jolley of Johnson City, Tenn., are spending the Christmas holidays, with Mrs. Jolley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Young, of Franklin Route 2.

Catherine Young, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Young, of Franklin Route 2, left Friday for Athens, Ga., to accompany her brother, Johnny Young and Mrs. Young to Miami, Fla., for the Christmas holidays. They will visit their aunt, Mrs. D. W. McCoy and Mr. McCoy while there.



BLACKBURN W. JOHNSON

## JOHNSON GOES TO RALEIGH

### Will Head Credit Union Division Of Dept. Of Agriculture

Appointment of Blackburn W. Johnson of Asheville as superintendent of the Credit Union Division of the State Department of Agriculture was announced last Saturday by Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott of Raleigh. He will assume his duties with the Department on January 2, succeeding C. C. Booker of Hendersonville, who resigned to accept other work.

Mr. Johnson moved to Franklin in January 1931 when he purchased The Franklin Press, later acquiring The Highlands Maconian and combining the two papers which he edited until 1937 when he became editor of the Farmers Federation News of Asheville.

Prior to his coming to Franklin Mr. Johnson was a newspaper man connected with leading dailies in North Carolina and the Associated Press in New York. He received his education at the Virginia Episcopal School, University of North Carolina, and Columbia University, New York. He has recently been prominent in the Credit Union movement in North Carolina.

## Plant To Extract Epsom Salts From Nickel Ore Is Built At Webster

A small plant for the purpose of extracting sulphate of magnesium, or Epsom Salts as it is familiarly known, from nickel ore on an experimental basis is now under construction at the nickle mines at Webster. Operations are expected to begin around January 15. Laboratory tests have proved that the salts can be produced from the Webster ore, and if the experimental plant is successful, the process may turn out to be of more value than the nickle mines. If so, two larger plants would be built at the Webster mines; one for extracting the salts and another for reducing the nickle ore.

The experimental plant is under the direction of J. H. Gillis.

## Large Audience Attends Choral Society's Debut

The Franklin Choral society, as its director states it is named instead of the Franklin glee club as was previously reported, appeared in its first recital here last Wednesday night.

Included on the program was "Christ Has Come," the words and music of which were written by the Rev. Philip L. Green, the society's director, "Star of the East," "Cantique de Noel," "Song of Mary," "Hark Now, O Shepherds," and "Beautiful Savior."

## Weimar Jones Undergoes Eye Operation

The condition of Weimar Jones, member of the Citizen-Times staff, a former Franklin citizen, who underwent an operation for the removal of his right eye at Mission hospital, Asheville, last Friday, is reported to be satisfactory.

His mother, Mrs. George A. Jones, went to Asheville to be with her son.

## Dillsboro Man Caught Transporting Whiskey

State Highway Patrolman Guy and Deputy Sheriff Dills overhauled and searched an automobile driven by Harley Childers, of Dillsboro, five miles out on the Georgia highway early Saturday morning.

Twenty gallons of non-tax paid whiskey were found in Childers' car. He was placed in the county jail here and released on bond Monday.

## CHRISTMAS CLUB REACHES MANY

### Workers Say Club Plan More Efficient Than Past Methods

Approximately 1,250 Christmas bags and 140 Christmas baskets have been distributed over the county either through Christmas trees or individually, as reported by the newly-organized Christmas club chairman.

As in past years, presents were also distributed among the men at the state prison camp here.

Workers who have been active in spreading Christmas cheer in past years say that the Christmas club plan has worked more efficiently and with more good will than any other method tried heretofore. Religious and civic organizations, merchants and individuals have cooperated freely to insure a merry Christmas for every family in the county as far as possible.

Instead of having one Christmas tree here in Franklin for all the children in the county, individual trees were set up in each community, thus making it possible to reach more children than in past years. Arrangements for the time and place of each tree were worked out in conjunction with members of the various communities to avoid misunderstandings.

Organized at a meeting called by the American Legion earlier in the month, the Christmas club works through a central committee. Membership cards were available for groups and individuals.

The central committee this year consisted of Mr. Cabe, chairman, Dr. W. E. Furr, treasurer, Miss Gladys Guffey, secretary, Miss Eloise G. Franks, Paul Carpenter, J. J. Mann, and Clyde Gailey.

## Well Known Clay County Physician Dies In Georgia

Dr. J. M. May, 49, well known physician of Hayesville, died Wednesday morning in a hospital at Marietta, Ga., following an illness for several months.

Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon at the Hayesville Baptist church.

Surviving are his widow; two sons, Jack and Joe, one daughter, Beatrice, all of Hayesville; his mother, Mrs. S. J. May, of Flats; four sisters, Mrs. L. A. Boone, of Flats; Mrs. B. C. Jones, of Bryson City; Mrs. J. B. Gray, of Murphy, and Mrs. J. H. Hoyle, of Asheville, and one brother, T. A. May, of Hayesville.

## Wayah District

### Recreational Areas Show Increased Popularity

Actual registrations at the five recreational areas in the Wayah district of Nantahala national forest have reached a total of 41,292 thus far this year, Ranger John Wasilik, Jr., stated this week.

Since it estimated that only 75 per cent of the visitors to recreational areas take the trouble to register, this would indicate that approximately 68,000 persons visited the five pleasure spots in the district.

Dry Falls led all areas with a total registration of 29,268, more than the combined registrations of the four other areas. Cliffs Lake was second with 5,367 registration, Arrowood Glade third with 4,233 registrants, Van Hook Glade fourth with 1,515 registrants, and Ammons Camp Ground fifth with 909 registrants.

## Nantahala National Forest

### Did You Know That



A recent count of the fish being reared at Arrowood Glade, eight miles west of Franklin, disclosed that 41,847 brook trout are on hand at the present time. The number of trout weigh 1,919 pounds, or slightly under one ton.

There are, in addition, at Arrowood Glade 10,000 brown trout and 20,000 rainbow trout. All the fish reared this season will be held until next spring when they will be placed in the streams of the cooperative game areas of the Nantahala National Forest. The fish are being held over the season in order to bring them all up to legal size at the time of planting and to insure a much better survival by planting at a time of the year when food is more plentiful in the streams.