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The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE — LIBERAL — INDEPENDENT

HELP

To Make Your Town
Clean, Healthy and
Beautiful

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FRANKLIN, N. C. THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 1941

\$1.50 PER YEAR

SCHOOL FINALS BEGIN APRIL 27

Commencement Day April
30th Mr. Finley An-
nounces Awards

Commencement day for the Franklin high school has been set for Wednesday, April 30, with exercises beginning Sunday, April 27. Dr. J. L. Stokes II, pastor of the Franklin Methodist church, will preach the baccalaureate sermon at a service to be held in the Macon theatre on the evening of that day.

The graduating exercises will take place in the auditorium of the high school on Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

W. H. Finley, principal, has announced the following awards which will be made at their graduation to seniors who have done outstanding work in certain fields:

John Wasilik, valedictorian, in science; Mary Evelyn Angel, journalism; Conley Bradley, citizenship; Kenneth Bryant, mathematics; R. L. Crawford, agriculture; Helen Potts Higdon, most outstanding; T. L. Jamison, commercial; Claude Leatherman, athletics; William Ledford, history; Evelyn Moore, attendance; Andy Patton, English; Jennie Scott, economics; Richard Sloan, dramatics. The class will and testament has been written by Mary Evelyn Angel and Katherine Long, salutatorian; and the class prophecy by Andy Patton and John Wasilik.

New Bank

Building Going Forward; Excavations Made

Excavations with steam shovels for the Bank building and the adjoining building of Messrs. Harve Bryant and Lyman Higdon have gone forward rapidly during the past week. A 10-foot-deep basement 18 by 83 feet has been excavated in the rear, and W. T. Tippet superintending the work, states that the foundations will begin to be laid next week for the building which has outside dimensions of 83 by 93 feet.

The building was destroyed by fire on November 10 last. All of the old foundations are being removed, and a two-story, modern brick building of attractive design will replace it. S. Grant Alexander and Associates of Asheville are the architects.

Farm Debt

Adjustment Committee Is Appointed For Macon

On April 14, 1941 Mr. H. M. Guyot, farm debt adjustment specialist, met with the newly appointed FDA committee, composed of Harley R. Cabe, Frank Moody and J. B. Justice. This committee has been appointed for the purpose of working with the creditor and debtor for the adjusting of any debts that might be necessary between delinquent debtors and their creditors.

Since 1936 30 of these cases have been adjusted in Macon county, with the original indebtedness amounting to \$67,743.00 and the reduction obtained in these cases amounted to \$34,135.00, paying to the county \$1,468.00 in taxes. Eleven new cases have been opened and adjusted that do not appear in these figures.

This committee will appreciate any debtor that has burdensome debts that he feels are impossible to be paid, to contact some member of the committee or some agent of farm security administration at the farm security office in the Leach building in Franklin.

It is not the purpose of this committee to help keep debtors from meeting their honest obligations, but they will be glad to help in any case necessary to work out adjustment both with the debtor and creditor whereby both might be benefited.

Pre-School Clinics Schedule For May

The following schedule of county pre-school clinics is announced by Dr. E. N. Haller, health officer, for the month of May:
May 1—Aguone 10 a. m.; Kyle 11:30 a. m.; Otter Creek 1 p. m.; Camp Branch 2:30 p. m.
May 6—Clarks Chapel 10 a. m.
May 8—Mt. Grove 10 a. m.; Academy 1 p. m.
May 9—Slagle 10 a. m.; Union 1 p. m.

The clinics will be held in the school houses of these communities.

Grand Jury

Reports To Judge Alley On County Buildings

The Macon county grand jury, composed of J. Ned Teague, chairman, and D. C. Rogers, Joel Dalton, D. A. Ledford, Clyde Downs, Tom Rickman, J. E. Bradley, Don L. Henry, J. L. Bryson, Floyd Bryson, Floyd McCall, Fred L. Crisp, C. B. Kinsland, J. E. Taylor, Floyd Jacobs, M. A. Hicks, H. H. Cole, Tom Moss, W. L. Ramsey, made the following report to Judge Felix E. Alley, presiding at the present term of Superior court.

We, the grand jury of the aforesaid county for April term, 1941, most respectfully report the following:

We have passed on all bills before us and have marked them true bills or not true bills—according to the evidence.

We divided into committees and visited the county home, courthouse, jail and prison camp, and make our report as follows:

We find the county home in fair condition, and would recommend that the front porches have new sills and other repairs to make them safe, also the upper front porch cleaned up. The bedrooms need window shades and three new springs. The outside toilet needs one door. And maple trees in front of house be topped.

All six inmates reported good treatment by manager. While we were on the ground we saw one inmate one Kansas Robbins whip another inmate, an old woman, without any cause and believing one Kansas Robbins is dangerous to other inmates. Would recommend she be sent to some other institution in the state, which is better prepared to care for her.

The school building of the Franklin high school we find in good shape, with exceptions of a few broken window glasses, and outside doors in bad condition. We find other school buildings of the county in fair condition by information of county superintendent.

We find county jail in fair condition, and prisoners well cared for.

We find the courthouse in fair condition. And all offices found in very good condition. The guardians, trustees and magistrates have made satisfactory reports to county clerk, so reports county clerk.

The prison camp we find in A-1 condition.

We appreciate the support and corporation extended us by your Honor and Solicitor.

April 16th, 1941.

Signed J. Ned Teague,
Foreman.

Funeral Services

For J. W. Morgan

Funeral services for Joseph Washington Morgan, 75, were held at the Watauga Baptist church Sunday afternoon. The Rev. Joseph Bishop, a Baptist minister of Macon county, officiated. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Mr. Morgan died at his home on Watauga Saturday morning at 6:30 o'clock following an illness of several months. Death was due to Bright's disease and complications.

A farmer and a life-long resident of Macon, Mr. Morgan was born on October 8, 1865, the son of the late George and Adelaide Morgan. On April 24, 1890, he was married to Miss Emily Caroline Childers, of this county. He was a member of Watauga Baptist church.

Pallbearers were Wallace Morgan, William Childers, Harold Morgan, Earl Emory, Burr Childers and Lee Crawford.

Honorary pallbearers included Bert Hughes, the Rev. George Cloer, J. B. Justice, Jess Morgan, Frank Bailey, Montey Duvall and Thomas Sanders.

The flower girls were Edith Raby, Hazel Morgan, Anna Lou Sanders and Hazel Childers.

Surviving are the widow, seven sons, Charlie, of Philadelphia; Jud, Claude, Davis, and John Franklin, route 4; George, of Carlton, Mich., and Marion, Newark, N. J.; two sisters, Mrs. James Elliott and Mrs. Silas Womack, of Franklin, and a number of grandchildren.

Defense Council

To Meet April 21

Gus Leach, chairman of the National Defense Council of Macon county, has called a meeting of all representatives of federal state and county organizations, Monday, April 21, at 9:30 a. m., in the basement of the Methodist church.

A member of the Land Use Planning staff of State college will assist with important problems. The meeting will discuss work that has been done to date and make immediate plans for further activities.

Student Council Officers



Rising seniors of Franklin High School recently elected officers of next year's Student Council. Standing: Hunter Anderson, secretary; Barbara Hurst, treasurer. Seated: Sam Ramsey, vice-president; Helen Edwards, president.

Chamber of Commerce Drive For Funds

The Board of Directors of the Chamber of Commerce will begin their membership drive on Friday, April 18. The following men will solicit memberships: Tom Angel, Jim Perry, John Archer, Guy Houk, Major Carmack, Tillery Love, Jess Conley.

W. H. Finley Reappointed Principal

The new school board met last Monday afternoon to take steps toward the appointment of the teachers for the coming year.

There are three district committees in the county as follows: Franklin committee, Dr. W. E. Furr, chairman; Jerry R. Franklin, Route 4; C. Patterson, Route 2.

Highlands, Charles Anderson, chairman; Frank H. Potts, Walter Bryson.

Nantahala, J. R. Shields, chairman; John Wishon and Mrs. B. Baldwin.

W. H. Finley has been reappointed principal of the Franklin high school by the Franklin district committee.

The teachers are nominated by the principals to their respective district committees and then submitted to the board and the superintendent, all of whom must approve the teachers' names.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Open Trimont Inn

Trimont Inn has opened for the season under the management of the owners, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Lyle. For the last two months extensive improvements have been added to both interior and exterior. In its convenient location and large grounds, Trimont has now been made one of the most comfortable and attractive hotels in this vicinity.

The large stucco building and porches have been repainted, and the floors and walls inside also refinished. Handsome papering and new furnishings in the lobby have made a modern room of unusual charm. Additional baths and improvements have been completed. The inn has accommodations for 30 to 40 guests.

Easter Fishing Reported Good

Some early fishermen are indebted to The Franklin Press and Highlands Maconian for their Saturday angling. The opening date announced by J. Fred Bryson, game warden, was April 13, and the date printed was that of Easter—April 12. This clears Warden Bryson, and according to Mr. Bryson, also exempts any Saturday sportsmen from fines.

Fishing was reported good over the week-end. From Aquone it was stated that most of the fishermen went away with their full limit.

Cowee School Rhythm Band

The recently organized rhythm band of the Cowee school has already given performances for several gatherings and is receiving invitations to play at other meetings during the Spring.

This is the only school orchestra in the county. The pupils earned the money to purchase their instruments during the past winter and organized the first of the year. They have shown unusual aptitude in so short a time. They gave a special program for the recent meeting of farmers at the Cowee school. They also played at the teachers' meeting of the Macon county unit of N. C. E. A.

The following pupils are members of the band:

Robert Mathis, Dorothy Allen, Louise Shepherd, Ruth Shepherd, Helen Shepherd, Lora Alice Cabe, Clara May Shepherd, Dorothy Leatherman, Ruth Bryson, Pauline Allen, Barbara Allen, Agnes Dalton, Frieda Potts, Ada Ruth West, Joan Potts, Caye Sue Clarke, Bettie Moore, Lorean Shepherd, Nell Allen, Louise Moore, Luange Gibson, Louise Bryson, Bettie Jean Rowland, Betty Bryson, Bettie Leatherman, May Sue Jones, Zena Pearl Rickman, Ruth Edwards, Sybil Potts, Edith Hurst.

Fred West, Paul Holand, Bryan Hurst, Edward Allen, Eugene Pickens, Roy Rickman.

Mrs. Kinsland Dies In Watauga

Mrs. Margaret Elizabeth Kinsland, 70, died at her home on Franklin Route 4, on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock following an illness of five days, although she had been a semi-invalid for several years. Death was caused from paralysis.

Mrs. Kinsland, who was the daughter of the late William W. and Jane Moore Higdon, was born on June 16, 1880 and raised in the Higdonville section of Macon county. She was married to the late Rev. John L. Kinsland on January 16, 1895. She was a member of the Cartoogechaye Baptist church.

Funeral services were held on Thursday morning at 11 o'clock at the Sugarfork Baptist church. The pastor, the Rev. G. W. Davis, officiated, assisted by the Rev. C. F. Rogers, pastor of the Franklin Baptist church. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are four children, one daughter, Mrs. Sanford Smith, of Cullasaja; and three sons, Arthur, of Otto; Roy and Paul of Franklin Route 4; four sisters, Mrs. Walter Gibson, of Franklin Route 3; Mrs. Bertha McDowell, of Otto; Mrs. W. F. Holbrooks, of Franklin Route 2; and Mrs. Carrie Vanhook, of Canton; one brother, L. A. Higdon, of Franklin and eight grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Jack Guest, Walter Cunningham, George Gibson, J. D. Kinsland, Fred Guest, Jr., and Curley Pennington.

Rowdy Mob

Attacks Negroes Here Saturday Night

Last Saturday night an unruly mob of white boys, most of them, it is reported, from out of town, staged a mob demonstration against all the negroes who happened to be on Main street. The net result was that every negro that could be found was "run out of town" after that purpose was announced by one or more of the mob.

Mayor Deplores Affair

Mayor Harrison, commenting on the affair, deplored the fact that this should have happened in Franklin where the best relations exist between the two races. "A gang of rowdies from out of town caused the whole disturbance. The two arrested will be dealt with in court, and it is the purpose of the authorities to apprehend the others and deal with them according to the law," said the mayor. "The officers, I believe, held the crowd in hand the best they could, without resort to violence."

As reported by an eye witness, the trouble began with an argument near the court house between some white boys and one or two negroes. When the argument became heated, John Dills, deputy sheriff, and Marshall Officer, night policeman, stopped the argument and the negroes left.

Soon after, it is said, that 15 or 20 white boys organized in front of the Dixie Grill behind the court house and went over to Main street where a group of colored citizens were standing. The gang told the negroes to leave town, and followed them when they expressed their willingness to do so; throwing rocks when the colored men started up Harrison avenue. A window in a house is reported to have been broken in the rock fight that followed.

Mob Punishes Three

When the white boys returned to Main street it appears that they followed three negro employees of the Franklin Terrace hotel as they were returning from the show, pursuing them as they hurried past the filling station and Baptist church. At this point, it is said, one negro was knocked down by being struck on the back of his head, and another suffered an injured knee and lost a package of new clothing, it was alleged.

The mob, that is reported to have composed of about 30, threw rocks at the fleeing negroes and overran the lawn of the hotel before returning to town. Weimar Wickle, butcher in Long's grocery store, was another victim, who was run through the fields when he left his work at the store. Other negroes chased managed to escape to taxis which carried them out of reach of their attackers.

Arrests Made

After this, it seems that the mob returned to Main street and laid wait for J. C. England, shoeshine boy at the City Barber shop, where, it is reported, there was excitement from 11 to midnight as a crowd estimated as between 75 and 100 people, some spectators, waited for the boy to come out of the barber shop. The sheriff, who had been called by a citizen earlier to assist the town authorities, with Deputy Dills, and Policemen Baird and Officer and special policeman Ralph Welch, arrested two of the men, Harley Houston and Howard Moses, of the Walnut Creek section, for public drunkenness and disorderly conduct.

Quarterly Conference At Snow Hill Church

The second quarterly conference was held Sunday at the Snow Hill Methodist church, with an all day session.

Following two new members joining the church Sunday morning, the Lord's Supper was administered.

The Rev. W. L. Hutchins, district superintendent of the Waynesville district, gave the principal message of the day, "Now is Christ Risen From the Dead."

Later the business session was held. Rev. P. L. Green, pastor, assisted by Mrs. Green, was in charge of the music and sang a duet written by Mr. Green, entitled "He Lives Again."

Special music was rendered.

Fire Chief Ashe Attends Clayton Meet

Derald Ashe, chief, and other members of the Franklin fire department, attended a meeting in Clayton, Ga., Tuesday night to organize a fire department in that neighboring town. They report a successful meeting, and that the town of Clayton plans to order an American Le France equipped fire truck.

CIVIL COURT BEGINS TODAY

Criminal Cases Disposed
Of, Judge Felix Alley
Presides

All criminal cases were disposed of during the first three days of court this week, and the civil docket was taken up Thursday morning. It is expected that the court will be in session until late next week.

Judge Felix E. Alley is presiding. As a result of their participation in the affray at York's Tourist Camp on the Cowee mountain on the night of December 11, Bill Welch was sentenced to 18 months, Humphrey Welch was given 12 months, and Fred Welch and Frank McCloud were fined \$100 each. Mrs. Fred York and Green McCloud were found not guilty. The Welches and McClouds are from Georgia.

John Henry was given 12 months sentence for perjury.

A twelve months' sentence was imposed on Ray Burrell for possession.

Vernon Roland was fined \$50 and the costs for reckless driving.

The following were fined for driving drunk and their licenses were revoked: Grover Sheffield, Wymer Young, C. W. Potts, Vinson M. Southards, Ward Dougherty and Aden Maples.

Charlie Burgess, colored, who last week was brought back from Cornelia, Ga., where he had been working since escaping—from the Macon county jail on January 5, plead guilty to a charge of receiving stolen property. Prayer for judgment was continued until the August term of court.

Cowee School

Judge Alley Orders Vol- untary Non-Suit

The restraining order in connection with the proposed new Cowee school that was to have come before Judge Felix E. Alley in Murphy on April 10, was postponed until Monday, April 14, to be heard before Judge Alley in Franklin.

The result was the dismissal as upon non-suit by the judge of the order upon the voluntary withdrawal by the plaintiffs of the action.

The temporary injunction was brought by a group of citizens of the Cowee section against the Board of Education of Macon county, listing certain objections to the selected location of the proposed consolidated school building.

Mattress Project Makes 200 A Week

The mattress project continues to benefit a large number of Macon families of low income. The project, which is located in the Andrew Ried building near the river bridge, is closed for the rest of this week. Mrs. Florence Sherrill announces, until the arrival of a new shipment of ticking.

"We now have two mattress centers in the county—the other being at Otter Creek", with Mrs. C. H. Douthit as supervisor," said Mrs. Sherrill this week. "An average of 200 mattresses a week are being made at both these centers. A change in the regulations allows a family of three to make two mattresses, a family of five or more can make a limit of three mattresses."

Applications will be received until April 30.

Registration

For Town Election Open

R. M. Ledford, registrant for the coming town election, who began to receive registrations in the town office in the Ashear building last Saturday, states that about 15 new voters were registered, which, though high, is about the usual number for the first day. He expects much heavier registrations on the two remaining Saturdays, April 19 and 26.

Interest in the election to be held on Tuesday, May 6, of a mayor and six aldermen, is warming up, and the temperature is expected to continue to rise until the final day. Candidates for mayor are the incumbent, John Harrison; Thad D. Bryson, attorney, and Robert A. Patton, U. S. commissioner.

No additional information was available concerning the proposed street improvements, upon which voters will be asked to express their wishes as to whether or not a bond election be called.