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## FRANKLIN COUNTY OBSERVES 150th BIRTHDAY

### Sesqui-Centennial Is a Glorious Success

### TWO BIG BANDS, NUMEROUS FLOATS MAKE UP HISTORICAL PARADE

### Thousands of Native Franklin Countians Return For Day

#### HON. JOSEPHUS DANIELS CENTENNIAL SPEAKER

W. H. Yarborough Makes Introductory, Mrs. Ben T. Holden, C. L. McGhee, L. L. Joyner, E. J. Cheatham Extend Welcomes, M. C. S. Noble and Mrs. T. W. Bickett Responds—Mrs. J. E. Malone, Sr. Contributes Pageant—Mrs. A. M. Hall Chorister 1879 and 1929—One Hundred and Forty-Nine Present That Were Here Fifty Years Ago—Barbecue Dinner Served Guests by Historical Association, D. A. R. and S. A. R.—S. A. R. State Meeting Presents Four Flags of Honor to Harrison Macon Chapter S. A. R.

One of the most glorious days in the long and interesting history of Franklin County was enjoyed on July 4th, by fully ten thousand people who gathered to indulge in the festivities of celebrating its one hundred and fiftieth birthday. Although the county was chartered on the 12th of February 1779, the fourth of July was selected for the glorious celebration, taking example from our forefathers who evidently wished to combine the recognition of the freedom of our grand old country, at the same time that we rejoice in our birthday gaiety. The day was fittingly observed. The multitudes who were here were in high spirits of patriotism and thanksgiving. A long line of parade, consisting of beautiful floats, pretty girls, patriotic men, all imbued with and depicting the spirit of the day. Among the large crowd were one hundred and forty-nine who were in attendance upon Franklin County's one Hundredth Anniversary, fifty years ago, two of whom, Mr. R. G. Wynnie Sr., of near Epsom, and Mr. J. H. Wilder, of Franklinton, had with them the flags that they carried and had on their horses in the great parade of that time.

The day was gloriously successful. Even the heavens smiled upon it, a most beautiful day. The many hearts beat in unison, throbs of joyous delight at the privilege of again being guests of Franklin County on this memorable day. And all cuddled within their bosoms the sincere hope to be spared for another such occasion.

The day passed admirably, not a single accident in the surging crowd, no disorder to mar the pleasure so generously afforded in the air. Even Providence did not detract from the day.

In speaking to the great crowd assembled in the auditorium of Mills High School and to those who, though not able to gain admittance, were privileged to listen by means of amplifiers placed in the school grove, Hon. Josephus Daniels, declared that he would not consider himself doing his duty nor worthy of the privilege of speaking at such an occasion, filling as he was the place on the program held by Vance fifty years ago if he did not in some way bring something of the past glory and history of the county to the boys and girls who are now preparing to build its future greatness and to share in its future prosperity. The main theme of his address therefore, dealt with five exceptional eras in the history of Franklin County; namely, the period of a county organization when the twin counties of Warren and Franklin were created from Butte, a county bearing the name of one opposed to freedom and liberty. No wonder the people wished to free themselves of such a name and take upon themselves names which would encourage and inspire them. Just so, Franklin chose the name of Benjamin Franklin, the great scientist, printer, ambassador, and philosopher, to whose spirit she has ever been leaders as Green Hill, who stood at Newbern and Halifax for the first declaration of absolute separation from England, John King called the father of Methodism, and Col. Anthony Bledsoe of Revolutionary fame. The second period was from the War of 1813 until the war between the states. In these years the Franklin citizenship and leaders built a prosperous and contented county, giving to the cause of the Con-

federacy such brave leaders as Col. Thomas Ruffin who equipped and furnished his own cavalry regiment, Capt. Phil Alston who lived long after most of his comrades had passed over the river. During this period too, Capt. Orren Randolph Smith, Franklin man, designed the Confederate Flag.

The third period, that following the Reconstruction and coming down to the World War, produced such illustrious public leaders as Furney Green, Joseph J. Davis, Charles M. Cooke, W. H. Yarborough, George M. Duke, J. A. Thomas, Matthew S. Davis, and Edwin Fuller.

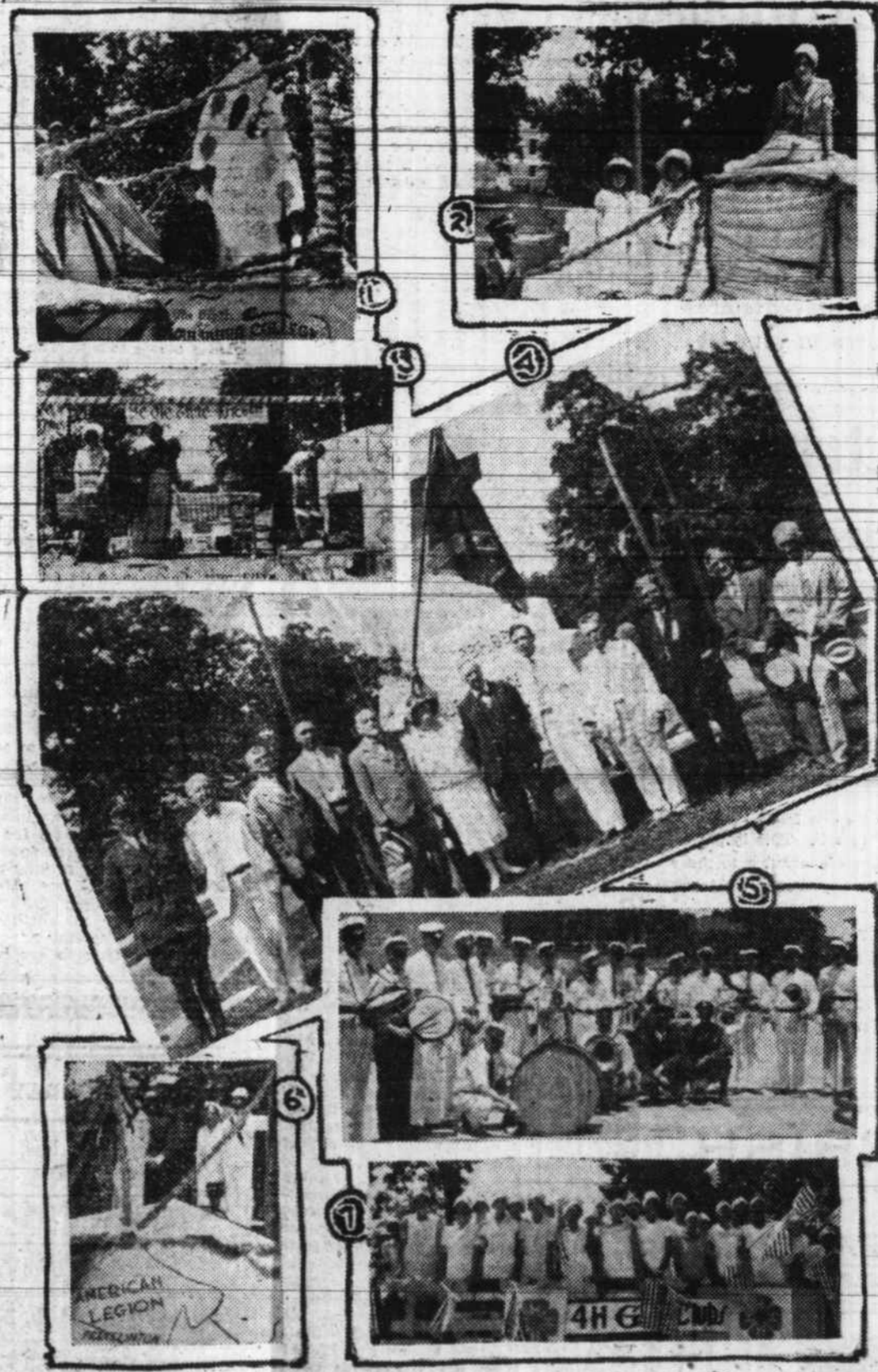
It was during the fourth great era, the World War, that Franklin was privileged to be able to give to the state its War Governor, her illustrious son, Thomas Walter Bickett. Mr. Daniels expressed the desire that Governor Bickett's speeches magnificent and full of eloquence, might be read and even memorized by the school boys and girls of today. He read a quotation closing Governor Bickett's last message which ended "and now my friends farewell, goodbye, and may He give his angels charge concerning you and Carolina." "As there were no Tories in Butte" in the Revolution, there were no slackers in Franklin in the World War," said the speaker, Major S. P. Boddie, who worthily bears the name long honored in North Carolina, was among the first officers to lead Franklin troops to the front. Mr. Daniels also paid high tribute to Mrs. Bickett, wife of Governor Bickett, guest and speaker of the day, who is a noted daughter of Franklin.

The fifth notable era, he said, is that of today, when Franklin County has surpassed any era in its history. He spoke of her educational advancement, mentioning the establishment of Louisburg College which is as old as the county itself, and of her industrial development, saying that she had one of the first industrial plants in the south, though she has always been chiefly agricultural. He congratulated the county especially its Historical Association for having resolved to collect old records and write its history, saying that she was setting the pace for other counties.

Mr. Daniels ended by raising the question, "What does the future hold?" saying that the future was in the hands of the men at the wheel and the boys and girls in school. As we celebrate this 150th anniversary he said, "Let us thank God and take courage."

Hon. W. H. Yarborough, Franklin County's favorite orator, in presenting Hon. Josephus Daniels, Editor of the News and Observer, and former Secretary of the Navy, the main speaker of the occasion, paused to pay tribute to those citizens of Franklin county whose names have not been sculptured in marble nor been placed upon a roll of honor. He paused to pay fitting tribute to the mothers of one hundred and fifty years whose tender care and loyal love have helped beyond measure to produce such great changes that have taken place in our county within the past century and a half. "The true history of Franklin County has not and never can be written," he declared. "It is locked in archives of the hearts of the multitudes that are in the graves that are unknown and unremembered." "Zebulon Baird Vance, chief speaker at the Centennial fifty years ago, was one of the state's greatest men," said Mr. Yarborough, "but he rendered no finer or more splendid services than the man who is going to speak to us today. All true progress has found in him an ally ready made and eager to assist. Any evil or detrimental influence found him standing square across the path calling to the manhood and womanhood to rally to the welfare of North Carolina. The speaker forecast the day when a statue of marble or bronze would be erected in memory of Josephus Daniels, who has already built its foundation of true faith and lasting courage. Descendants will honor him because he has battled to make North Carolina a better place to rear our sons and daughters. When the battle was the hottest, the issue the strongest, his sword has ever gleamed white and clean, high above all the rest. Mrs. Ben T. Holden, President of the Franklin County Historical Association, made the introductory address at the exercises held in the Mills Auditorium, on the 4th, announcing this the county's 150th birthday. In a few but enthusiastic words, she thanked everyone for the assistance rendered her in helping to make this day a success, including those who had put all things aside to be present and take part. "May the day never

### SCENES OF THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SESQUI-CENTENNIAL HELD IN LOUISBURG JULY 4th, 1929



#### Cotton Blooms

Messrs. G. H. Pergerson, of near Popes, and J. N. Wester, of Cedar Rock township, were the first to bring cotton blooms to the Franklin Times this year. Both of these gentlemen brought in white blooms on Thursday, July 4th. Others bringing in blooms the past week were: J. E. Stallings, of Cypress Creek

township, brought in a red bloom on Saturday. J. S. Wiggins, of Gold Mine township, brings white bloom Monday. W. L. Collins, of Cedar Rock township, white bloom Monday. C. C. Perry, of Sandy Creek township, a white bloom Monday. James Clifton, colored, near Louisburg, a white bloom Tuesday. L. G. Turnage, of near Seven Paths, a white bloom Tuesday. Frank Littlejohn, who lives on Dr. S. P. Burt's farm, brought in two Tuesday, a red one and white one. O. E. Finch, of near Moulton, brought in a white bloom Wednesday. C. Neal, of near Bunn, sends in two red blooms Wednesday.

#### BAPTIST CHURCH

There will be no services at the Baptist Church Sunday evening on account of the union services at the Episcopal Church. The B. Y. P. U. will meet at the regular time. The sermon topic for the Sunday morning hour will be "Dangers of Drifting." The pastor will preach at that hour.

(Continued on Page Ten)

#### MR. R. L. HICKS DEAD

Mr. R. L. Hicks died suddenly here in his seventieth year early on Friday morning in his room on East Naah Street.

Mr. Hicks leaves seven children, Mrs. Joe Macon, and Mrs. Vack Walls, of near Raleigh, and Mr. A. L. Hicks, Mrs. Geo. Rudd, Mrs. Thomas Nelms, Miss Alice May Hicks, and Mr. J. H. Hicks of Franklin County.

The funeral services were held on Saturday afternoon, from the home of Mr. F. L. Herman on Church Street. They were conducted by Rev. S. L.

Blanton, Pastor of the Louisburg Baptist Church. Interment was made in the cemetery at Maple Springs Church east of Louisburg.

The pallbearers were: Messrs. H. C. Taylor, G. W. Murphy, A. B. Perry, W. F. Davis, W. J. Shearin, H. G. Harrison.

During the fourteen years that Mr. Hicks lived here with his son, Mr. A. L. Hicks, he made many friends, who extend to the bereaved family and relatives their heartfelt sympathy.

Quite a good number attended both services and the floral tribute was very pretty.

#### WILLIAMS ALLOWED \$1,000 BOND

Judge Palmer heard the preliminary in the case of State vs Peter Williams, charged with assault with deadly weapon, resulting from his accident that resulted in the death of Sam Harris, colored, in Recorder's Court Monday, and allowed the defendant to give a \$1,000 bond for his appearance in Superior Court. Other cases disposed of Monday were as follows:

State vs Peter Williams, assault with deadly weapon, sent to Superior Court, bond \$1,000. (This is the case in which Sam Harris received a crushed leg in an automobile accident that resulted in his death).

State vs Vasser Kearney, carrying concealed weapons, guilty, 9 months on roads, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs.

State vs Vasser Kearney, nuisance, not guilty.

State vs Buddie Burwell, carrying concealed weapons, capias and continued.

State vs Claude Renn, operating automobile intoxicated, capias and continued.

State vs Ira McGhee, bad check, continued.

State vs Matthew Williamson, false pretense, guilty, prayer continued to first Monday in October.

State vs Hugh Brown, unlawful possession of whiskey, guilty, 6 months on roads. Appeal.

State vs Ernest Mitchell, distilling and unlawful possession of whiskey, guilty, prayer for judgment continued for one week.

State vs Phil Perry, distilling, guilty, 6 months on roads, suspended upon payment of \$50 and costs.

State vs Johnny Perry, abandonment, guilty, prayer for judgment continued for one week.

State vs Dock Leonard, distilling, pleads guilty, 12 months on roads, suspended upon payment of \$50 fine and costs.

#### Mr. H. D. Egerton Dead

One of Franklin County's oldest, best-known and best-loved citizens, Mr. Hugh Davis Egerton, died in his home, "Holly Grove", near Laurel at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning, July 10, in his eighty-first year.

Mr. Egerton was a loyal member of Trinity Methodist Church, but did not confine his attendance to one denomination alone, he having taught in the Baptist Sunday School at Mt. Zion for fourteen years, ceasing only when his health prevented further activity. He was a member of the Sandy Creek Masonic Lodge and was an Honorary member of the Laurel Council Junior Order United American Mechanics. He was a kind father a devoted husband and a valued neighbor, who will be greatly missed in his community.

Though modest in accepting public positions, Mr. Egerton held many, serving from a standpoint of duty. He was at one time member of the Board of Education of Franklin County, and has been delegate to many state meetings representing various farmers Unions. He was always true to every trust.

Besides his wife, who was Miss Hodgie Ballard before marriage, Mr. Egerton is survived by the following children, Mrs. W. K. A. Williams, Mr. C. S. Egerton, and Mr. Blount Egerton, of near Louisburg, Mrs. J. B. Jones, of Henderson, Mr. B. B. Egerton of Greensboro, Mr. H. W. Egerton, of Birmingham, Ala., Mr. J. N. Egerton, of Littleton, Mr. Robert Egerton, of Hopewell, Va., and Mr. Walter Egerton, of Raleigh. He also leaves two sisters, Mrs. S. E. Blount, and Mrs. M. E. Whiteside, of Wilson.

The funeral services were held from the home on Thursday morning at 10:30 o'clock and were conducted by Rev. C. B. Howard, Pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist Church, and Rev. K. V. Duvall, Pastor of Trinity Methodist Church. Interment was made in Oaklawn cemetery.

The pallbearers were Messrs. H. P. Speed, J. J. Cooper, S. P. Edwards, W. S. Person, Kenneth May, and Geo. Joyner.

The floral tribute was especially large and pretty and spoke beautiful love and esteem for the deceased. The bereaved family and friends have the deepest sympathy of the entire community.

#### CEDAR ROCK BAPTIST CHURCH

The regular Sunday School Workers meeting will be held Saturday at 2 o'clock.

This meeting will discuss the school standard. "Do you want a standard school?"

Preaching at 3 o'clock Saturday. The revival meeting will begin at the Sunday morning service. The preaching will be by Evangelist Cameron. All are invited to attend these services during the week.

Perry Smith, Castalia, N. C. Bloom mailed July 21.

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