

The Jackson County Journal

\$1.50 the Year in Advance in the County

Sylva, N. C., Wednesday, July 6, 1927

\$2.00 the Year in Advance Outside County

SEIZE MEN, CARS AND 564 GALLONS

Franklin, N. C., July 4.—Four men, 64 gallons of whiskey, 500 gallons of beer, two automobiles, and one complete distilling outfit have been captured by sheriff's officers of Macon county within the past two days.

Yesterday morning officers gave chase to a car containing five men. The men threw out 11 gallons of whiskey when their pursuers were about 50 yards from them in East Franklin. Their car then wheeled about and raced off in an easterly direction. One of the men escaped before the chase was over and the liquor car taken into custody. Those arrested gave the names of Clayton and Rogers and said they were from Jackson county. They made bonds in the amount of \$200 each.

About daybreak today H. J. Parris and B. Owen, of West Asheville, their automobile, and 60 gallons of whiskey were captured on the bridge over the Little Tennessee river on the edge of Franklin. Attempting to escape the officers, Parris jumped off the bridge and started to wade across the river. When he reached water up to his chin, however, he thought better of the plan, turned around and walked straight into the officers' arms. Parris and Owen were in jail here tonight in default of bonds of \$700 each.

Officers of this county and of Raben county Ga., met at the North Carolina-Georgia line for a raid this afternoon, but only three gallons of liquor were found. It was buried exactly on the State line.

The fourth wet capture of the past two days was made about 11 miles from here on Walnut Creek where officers found a complete copper still and poured out about 500 gallons of beer. The distiller made his getaway.

ONTEORA ROD & GUN CLUB BANKRUPT

Franklin Press, June 30.—The Onteora Rod and Gun Club, a concern maintaining an office in New York and hunting and fishing club about five miles west of Franklin, has been adjudicated a bankrupt, according to telegraphic information received here Wednesday from Wilmington, Del., the state in which the concern was incorporated.

Number of judgments against the club had been secured by local creditors, and personal property to satisfy the first of these was to have been sold here today (Thursday.)

The club, headed by Henry Dale, its president, had made a large number of improvements, including an attractive club house, playgrounds, etc., on the estate of the Onteora Estates, and had maintained a manager and engineer at their club. So far as was learned, no members had been paid. A heavy advertising campaign was carried on some months ago through national magazines.

Membership, it is understood, had cost \$2,000 which would be paid in addition to a year's dues for a lot and cabin.

The voluntary bankruptcy proceedings of the Onteora Rod and Gun Club have nothing whatever to do with the Onteora Estates, Inc., R. D. S. K. attorney for the latter, pointed out. Under terms of the agreement between the two concerns, the Onteora Estates, Inc., had leased certain property to the Onteora Rod and Gun Club, which ultimately, the latter concern would have been given title to, and fulfillment of certain conditions.

The concern began work here nearly a year ago.

LOWHEE PASTOR TO PREACH HERE

Rev. A. W. Lynch, pastor of the Methodist church, at Cullowhee, will preach at the Methodist church here Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

Poultry and hog raisers in David county are saving between \$10 and \$15 a ton by using home grown grains and mixing their feeds at home as compared with commercial feeds.

NEGRO SHOT BY HIGHWAY EMPLOYEE

Brevard News, June 30

J. D. Medlin, employed on the state highway near Brevard, fired three shots at Gudgey Smith, colored, last Sunday night, two of the bullets taking effect in the abdomen and in the hip of the negro.

According to Rural Policeman Sims the trouble arose when a car driven by the negro struck another car driven by Plato Allison at Pisgah Forest. Mr. Medlin, who comes from South Carolina, is said to have made some remark about the carelessness of negro drivers, whereupon the negro began cursing Mr. Medlin and it is said, made as if to draw a gun.

Mr. Medlin drew first, firing three times at the negro, who was taken to the hospital where he received medical attention and was sent to his home. Mr. Medlin found the officers and stated to them that he had shot the negro. Trial was set for last Tuesday, but was postponed until next week on account of the negro being unable to attend the hearing.

UNION MEETING AT HAMBURG

The Jackson County Union Meeting will meet with Hamburg Baptist Church. The program follows:

Friday July 29th 1927, Sermon 11 o'clock A. M. by Rev. Laurence Crawford.

Dinner.

1 P. M. Enrolling of delegates and organization.

1:30 P. M. Pastoral Fields and their outlook, by all the pastors of Jackson County Union.

Saturday, 9:30 A. M., Devotional services.

10 A. M. "Are we keeping the Sabbath as we should?" Open discussion by Bros. Geo. W. Sutton and D. G. Bryson.

11 A. M. The chief assets of the Jackson County Union. Opened by Rev. W. C. Reed and Rev. I. K. Stafford.

Dinner.

1 P. M. The effective means in winning the lost, Rev. Ben Cook and Rev. R. N. Deitz.

2:30 P. M. The church's duty to its pastor, Bros. J. T. Gribble and J. B. Enslay.

Sunday A. M. Sunday School lesson, taught by A. V. Washburn.

11 A. M. Preaching by Rev. J. G. Murray and offering for Sylva Collegiate Institute.

Adjourn at will.

DUKE WILL CELEBRATE AT JUNALUSKA

The students and alumni of Duke University are planning a gala day to be observed July 14, in connection with the Junaluska department of the Duke Summer School. An effort is being made to reach all students and alumni living within a wide radius of Lake Junaluska. This event, which is the first of its kind, will become a yearly feature of the Junaluska school, it is hoped.

The program begins at 3:30 in the afternoon and extends through the evening. It consists of a water carnival, a chicken dinner, and a musical program. The plans for the various events are well under way, and the whole school is enthusiastic over the fête. A large number of Duke graduates and students are being expected to attend from Jackson county.

MRS. C. R. BROWNING DIES

Mrs. C. R. Browning passed away at the local hospital, Monday evening having been brought here from her home in Bryson City a few days before. Mrs. Browning is survived by her husband and several children. One son is Vance Browning, clerk of the superior court of Swain county. She is a sister of Mrs. James H. Cathey, of Sylva.

The funeral and interment were held today at her old home in Macon county.

Rev. T. F. Deitz of Beta, former pastor of Mrs. Browning, conducted the funeral services.

Farmers of Vance County will make a good will tour through western N. C., across into S. C. and return back through the Sandhills during a trip beginning the week of July 11.

Equalization Board To Meet this Week

Raleigh, July 5.—The state board of equalization probably will convene in Raleigh this coming week at a called session to discuss a number of matters to come before it, it was announced by Leroy Martin, executive secretary. Just what these matters are Mr. Martin would not say, neither was he able to name the exact date. Heretofore the board was not expected to meet until July 21 at Morehead City, when the distribution of the \$100,000 emergency fund, left from the \$3,250,000 equalization fund which was distributed to 90 counties June 15th.

But some dissatisfaction has been expressed with the manner in which this amount was apportioned and it is believed in some quarters that this may have something to do with the calling of this special session of the board for this week.

However, it is becoming more and more apparent to those who have been studying the situation that if the distribution of the present fund has not been entirely equitable, that the board itself is not to blame, but rather the law, since the board carried out the requirements of the law as nearly as it was possible to do it in the time allotted. True, the revaluations made by the board were estimates, rather than actually revaluations, but this was expected, since the board had but about 60 days in which to do its work.

Another thing that does not seem to be generally understood is that the present distribution was made on the basis of the 1926 county valuations while last year the distribution was made on the basis of the 1920 values. To those familiar with the change in values in the last six years, especially in some of the eastern counties where there has been a bigger slump than in some of the others. In some instances, the values in other counties have increased materially since 1920.

So it becomes apparent that since the function of the equalization board is primarily to equalize valuations in the various counties. This being done the amount of the fund each receives is almost automatically determined.

In order to show the difference in the amount of equalization fund which the various counties would have received this year, had the distribution been made on the basis of the 1920 valuations, instead of the 1926 value, a table has been prepared showing this difference.

Take Alamance county. Its 1920 valuation was \$38,946,312 and a 40 cents tax on this amount would have yielded \$15,578,7, leaving \$38,508 to have been received from the equalization fund. But this year Alamance received \$56,798 from the fund, instead of \$39,508 because the valuation determined by the board this year was placed at \$74,624,128 or some \$4,000,000 less than in 1920, with the result that it received a much larger slice of the equalization fund than it would have had the 1920 figures for values been used instead of the 1926 values.

Again take Bertie, one of the counties objecting to the present distribution of the fund. In 1920 Bertie had a valuation of \$20,287,703, and a 40 cents tax on this amount would have yielded \$83,310, leaving a balance of \$20,239 to be supplied from the equalization fund. But the valuation determined by the board on the basis of the 1926 valuation is more than \$5,000,000 less than the 1920 valuation being but \$15,810,915, upon which a 40 cents tax would yield but \$63,243, leaving \$50,306 to be supplied this year from the equalization fund in order for the county to meet its school budget, instead of \$30,239, a difference of \$20,000 in favor of Bertie.

Or consider the case of Buncombe county, which this time received nothing from the equalization fund, because of its present valuation, as fixed by the board, of \$155,937,677. In 1920 the valuation was only \$92,434,572 upon which a 40 cents tax would have raised but \$369,738, and which would have entitled the county on this basis to \$37,063 of the present

fund. And so the story goes, in county after county.

The above is a news story furnished the Asheville Times from its Raleigh bureau. It but bears out the contention made by The Journal, that the allocation of funds was manifestly unfair, as is shown by the increase of \$600.00 granted Jackson, one of the poorer counties in the state, as against the increase of some seventy odd thousand in Robeson, one of the big counties of the state.

If, as the Board alleges, the difference in the distribution of the equalizing fund is due to the change in valuations between 1920 and 1926, perhaps the board can tell us why Jackson county, with a loss of a million dollars in valuation, not estimated but actual, from 1920 to 1926, received an increase of only \$600.00, while Robeson, the home county of the governor of North Carolina, got an increase of more than seventy thousand dollars, or an estimated loss of valuation.

The revaluation of Jackson county in 1920 was carried out in good faith and in keeping with the spirit and intention of the law. The loss of a million dollars was due to decreases on certain corporate property, made by the state tax commission, and by the loss sustained, in valuation, by cutting valuable timber from large areas, and shipping it out of the county. So Jackson actually lost the amount. At the same time, Mr. McLean's equalizing board compensated the schools of the county for the loss by giving the county a measly \$600.00, not enough to pay one teacher, as its share of a doubled equalizing fund.

The whole thing was but a sop handed out to stop the growing demand for a state-wide system of public schools, giving every child in the state equal educational advantages, with the burden of maintaining the schools distributed equally throughout the state. But, it failed of its object, if it was intended to increase the efficiency and standard of the schools in the poorer counties, like Jackson, and at the same time give those counties some relief from the excessive burden of taxation.

If the fund is to be distributed on the basis of lower valuation, as has been done in this instance, then the whole fabric of our taxation system as promulgated by Governor Bickett and enacted into the law as known as the revaluation act, will fall down; the tax books of every county will again become monumental liars; and there will be a scramble from one end of North Carolina to the other to see how low the property in every county can be assessed.

The truth is that there has been a fearful mistake made, and the more the people study it, the more indignant they are becoming. The allocation of the fund should have been left with the people who know most about the school problems and school needs of the state; and it would have been had not somebody persuaded members of the legislature to turn the appointment of the commission over the governor of North Carolina.

Now the board meets in the city of Raleigh, and estimates the valuation of Jackson county to be a million dollars or so more than the tax authorities say that it is. This county has tried faithfully to keep its property as high as it should be on the tax books. The state tax commission is responsible for part of the loss, having reduced the value of certain corporate property. Another board of the state, meeting in Raleigh, and knowing little about the county or its conditions, raises the valuation, for the purpose of allocating the equalizing fund and for no other purpose. Hence, the county, with an actual loss of a million dollars valuation, gets its part of the equalizing fund upon the basis of an estimated increase.

This county should join others that have been the victims of discrimination, perhaps not intentional but discrimination never-the-less, and fight for fair treatment to the tax payers, and to the boys and girls

FIND ANCIENT TUNNELS AT LYRIC THEATRE SITE

Workmen excavating for the new Lyric Theatre building on Main street dug into what appears to be the remains of two ancient tunnels, or perhaps only one tunnel, the connection between the two having been filled in sometime during the centuries. One was from the east to west and the other north and south. In one M. John Sheppard, who is in charge of the excavating work found a pine knot, still in good state of preservation. The tunnels are from 12 to 15 feet under the surface of the ground, and are only large enough for a man to crawl into, though it is probable that they were much larger at one time, having gradually filled up leaving only the small space at the arched top. There has been much speculation as to how the tunnels were made and as to who made them—the Indians, the mound builders, or some race that preceded them upon the continent.

SUMMER STUDENTS VISIT INTERESTING POINTS

A party of forty-two students and members of the faculty of the Cullowhee State Normal Summer School boarded two large trucks Saturday morning and spent the day visiting interesting spots in this section of the State. They went to the Indian Reservation where they visited the Indian school, to Bryson City and the Fryemont Inn, and to Nantahala Gorge. A picnic lunch provided by the school was spread. The trip was under the auspices of the school and was part of the program planned annually for summer school students.

Mrs. H. F. Burley, a student at the summer school spent the week end at her home in Ravensford.

Miss Bessie Mallonace was a visitor at her home in Murphy for the week end.

Mrs. Margaret A. Bell spent the week end at home in Murphy.

Miss Bernice Bridges went to her home in Brevard for the week end.

Misses Abbie Tabor and Genevieve Burnette spent last week end at their homes in Burnette.

Misses Annie McGuire, Emma Lou Stanfield, Bertie Jo McGuire and Mary Jo Latham were recent visitors at their homes in Andrews.

Miss Osie Smith visited at her home in Marble during the week end.

Miss Carmen King of Murphy went home for the past week end.

Mrs. W. F. Colvard, a student at the summer school, spent the week end in Robbinsville.

Miss Hazel Martin spent the week end in Alexander, her home.

Miss Lilly Galloway and Miss Lula Lee Phillips spent the week end in Franklin.

Miss Pauline Reece spent the week end at her home in Brevard.

Miss Blanche Smith went to her home in Hendersonville for the past week end.

Miss Ora Lee Gaddy visited Mrs. W. R. Boggan in Asheville last week end.

Miss Gertrude Allison spent the week end at her home in Sylva.

Miss Rachel Davis was a recent visitor at Highlands.

Misses Eunice, Bess and Essie Cunningham spent the week end in Franklin.

Miss Grace Carpenter spent the week end at Franklin.

Miss Thelma Jones went to Fletcher recently.

Misses Ethel Tabor, Effie Higdon, and Vesta Higdon went to their homes in Almond for the week end.

Miss Lois Edwards went to Bessie for the week end.

Miss Bessie Warren and Miss Mattie Ruth Gurley recently visited in Cowarts.

Miss Grace Edwards recently went to Andrews for a visit.

Miss Alice Bryson was a visitor at Andrews.

Mush disease can be kept out of the poultry flock by burying or burning the dead birds.

of Jackson county.

As the Raleigh News and Observer has well said; either there has been a most unfair allocation of the equalizing funds, through all the years that are past, or the present allocation is unjust most discriminatory toward some of the counties of the state.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE W.N.C.

The Ministers' Conference of Western North Carolina an organization of Baptist Ministers which holds its meeting quarterly will next meet at Murphy on July 12 and 13. The program is as follows:

Tuesday

11:00 A. M.—Devotional—Local Minister selected by the pastor.

11:20 A. M.—Inspirational Sermon—Rev. G. A. Martin.

11:50 A. M.—Planning October Program—see note.

12:00 Lunch.

Afternoon Discussion—Jesus, the Christ

1:00 P. M.—Devotional—Rev. West, Marble.

1:15 P. M.—Business.

1:30 P. M.—Jesus, the Son of Man—Rev. I. K. Stafford.

2:00 P. M.—Jesus, the Son of God—Rev. George Steed.

2:30 P. M.—Jesus, as Prophet—Rev. W. H. Ford.

3:00 P. M.—Jesus, as Priest—Rev. T. L. Sasser.

3:30 P. M.—Jesus, as King—Rev. A. B. Smith.

4:00 P. M.—Open Conference and Discussions.

Adjournment at pleasure.

Evening

8:00 P. M.—Devotional—A demonstration of an effective opening church service—Rev. R. P. McCracken, assisted by the Murphy Church Choir.

8:30 P. M.—The Believers' Union with Christ—Rev. A. V. Joyner.

Wednesday

Discussion—The Christian.

9:15 A. M.—Devotional—Rev. H. H. Hyde.

9:30 A. M.—The Christian as a Son of God—Rev. T. C. Buchanan.

10:00 A. M.—As an Ambassador—Rev. T. F. Deitz.

10:30 A. M.—As a soldier—Rev. J. N. Lee.

11:00 A. M.—His place, riches, and joy in this life—Prof. Reed.

11:30 A. M.—His future state and blessed relations—Rev. Murray.

Noon — Lunch and fellowship hour—Rev. W. P. Elliott.

Note—We wish to make the October meeting a great "Bible Institute." Therefore we are asking each one present to be prepared to name the Bible subject which he would prefer to discuss. If you cannot attend the Murphy conference, write to T. F. Deitz, Beta, N. C., indicating the subject preferred.

Notice—free entertainment is always gladly furnished all visitors by the entertaining church.

GULF COMPANY BUYS STATION

The Gulf Refining Company has just closed with B. C. Grindstaff and others for the purchase of the filling station at the East end of Mill and Main streets, for a consideration said to be around \$10,000 and will take charge of the station and operate it, beginning tomorrow morning.

HALL BUYS POINSETT GRILL

The sale last week of the Poinsett Grill by W. A. Lytle to L. C. Hall, was completed and Mr. Hall has assumed the management of the business. The Grill, located in the Ray building on the corner of Main and Walnut streets was opened a few months ago, by Mr. Lytle and has steadily grown in popularity.

NOTICE

Epworth League Labor Day, Saturday, July 9, 1927. Epworth Leaguers have set aside Saturday for their labor day. Every leaguer will work on that day for the benefit of the league.

We are appealing to business men of the city to support this cause and if you can employ one or more leaguers next Saturday will you kindly call and give us your name. If you have a donation, we are grateful.

What we earn Saturday we give to our league.

Mrs. D. D. Alley, Pres.