

## It Happened This Week

Davis to Prison  
More Land Condemned  
Turns on Hoover  
Roosevelt Optimistic

### DAVIS NOW A CONVICT

Wallace B. Davis, the Asheville poor boy who became president of the largest financial institution in Western North Carolina, the Central Bank and Trust company, entered State's prison at Raleigh Thursday to begin serving sentences aggregating nine to 13 years for violating the state banking laws. His appeal to the United States Supreme court was refused review. Davis, a stocky, bald man of 46, became convict No. 27531. His wife and son, Wallace, Jr., accompanied him to the prison gates. Col. Luke Lea and Luke Lea, Jr., of Tennessee, convicted jointly with Davis in one case charging conspiracy, have been granted a stay of sentence pending action of the U. S. Supreme Court on an appeal.

### LANDS CONDEMNED

The U. S. government has instituted proceedings in federal court at Asheville for condemnation of 5,227.47 acres of land in Cherokee, Graham and Macon counties to be added to the Nantahala National Forest. A decree signed by Judge Webb at Shelby provides for the distribution of \$16,010.57 among the owners of these lands as follows: Guernsey P. Hood, state commissioner of banks, for the closed Merchants and Manufacturers Bank of Andrews, \$11,589.29; to John A. Tatham, Lee Watkins and others, \$462.84; G. E. Lail and wife, \$291.54; C. A. Pace and wife, \$280.71; to Joe Bell and wife, \$254.24; to Alexander Moore, \$69.30; W. S. Sanders, \$31.08; Fred Shope, \$30; and to Andrews Tanning Extract company, \$2,145.93.

### UPHOLDS DEMOCRATIC RECORD

Pointing out that during the last four years North Carolina has paid off \$19,970,000 of its funded debt, Governor O. Max Gardner in a political address at Goldsboro Wednesday night challenged "our Republican opponents to find a single Republican state whose record matches that to the Democratic administration of this state."

### DENOUNCES HOOVER

Another progressive Republican has come out for Roosevelt. This time it is Senator Bronson M. Cutting of New Mexico, who, though he supported Hoover four years ago, announced in a speech at Denver Wednesday night that he is going to vote for the Democratic candidate. He denounced Hoover as "subservient to anti-public interests," specifically naming the great power interests, and lauded Roosevelt as "his own master." Borah, Norris, Johnson and other Republican progressives already had turned their support to Roosevelt.

### ROOSEVELT OPTIMISTIC

Back in Albany after a strenuous trip through the South, Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt expressed great optimism as to the outcome of the election on November 8. He said everywhere he went he saw unmistakable signs of the political tide turning to Democracy. At Sandford, Raleigh and other North Carolina cities and towns he passed through he greeted by wildly cheering throngs. Governor Gardner, in introducing him at Raleigh, asked for a Democratic majority of 150,000 votes.

### HOOVER ACTIVE

Intent on retaining his office, President Hoover has mapped out a strenuous whirlwind campaign that will take him before millions of people in the east and mid-west. Next Monday he is scheduled to speak at Baltimore, Philadelphia, Newark and New York. Next Thursday he and Mrs. Hoover will start a trip that will take them through eight states and before 22 audiences in the mid-west.

### Young Democrats Announce Speaking Dates

The following meetings are scheduled for the Young People's Democratic clubs of Macon county for this week, all to be held Friday evening, beginning at 7:30 o'clock: Holly Springs, with Sam J. Murray and Miss Elizabeth Slagle as speakers; Ellijay, Blackburn W. Johnson and R. S. Jones as speakers; Cowee, Dr. W. A. Rogers and Harley Cane as speakers; Otto, Carl Slagle and John W. Edwards as speakers. Saturday evening, the regular weekly meeting for the Etna Young People's Democratic club will be held at 7:30 o'clock, with the following speakers: Sam J. Murray, Carl Slagle and R. S. Jones. Monday night, Oct. 31, a meeting is to be held at the Seely school.

# The Franklin Press

and  
The Highlands Maconian  
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FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, OCT. 27, 1932

RED CROSS

ROLL CALL

Starts

November 11

\$1.50 PER YEAR

## Many Visit School Fair; Exhibits Praised by Webb, Leader of 5-and-10 Program

A steady stream of people, young and old, town folks and country folks, visited the second annual school fair at the Franklin graded school Saturday morning and afternoon. Scores of exhibits of farm and home economics products—all the work of students—brought commendation from the visitors.

The fair was sponsored by the vocational agriculture class, of which Earl Meacham is instructor, and the home economics class with Miss Rosalie Morrow as teacher. The exhibits were arranged by the students in these classes under the supervision of their teachers.

Among the visitors at the fair was Bruce Webb, of Asheville, director of the Five and Ten Year Farm program in Western North Carolina.

### Praises Work

"It was the finest thing of its kind I have seen," Mr. Webb remarked. "One cannot help but feel that Western North Carolina agriculture is going to come into a better day. The exhibits put on by these students would be a credit to any full-fledged farmer."

E. V. Vestal, county farm agent of Jackson county, was the judge of the agriculture class exhibits. Prizes awarded follow: Best prolific corn, first prize, \$1.50, Wilmer McConnell; second prize, pair overalls, Robert Waldo; and third prize, 75 cents, Rogers Ammons. The only prize awarded in yellow corn, which was 75 cents, was given George Wurst. The prizes won in the Irish potato division: First prize, \$1.50, Erwin Norton; and second prize, a hammer, won by John Bryson. Sweet potatoes: First prize, a pocket knife, George Mc-

Clure. Wheat: First prize, belt, Earnest Bennett. Stock bees: First prize, neck-tie, John Bryson; and second prize, haircut, Sexton Vinson. Farm plans: First prize, \$1.50, Edwin Young; second prize, sweater, Dwight Wilson; third prize, \$1, Fred Gray. General farm exhibit: First prize, \$1.50, John Bryson; second prize, \$1, Carlos Rogers. Educational booth: First prize, 75 cents for the best hay, went to Frank Williams; second prize, 50 cents, best soil display prize, was awarded, to Earnest Bennett; third prize, 50 cents, for hay, went to Woodrow Dowdle; fourth prize, 50 cents, for corn was won by Paul Gibson. Sweepstakes, first prize, \$1, Wiley Bryson; second prize, 50 cents, was won by Rex Meadows. Soy beans: First prize, \$1.25, Roy Southards; second prize, 75 cents, Jim Patton. For the best project record book Carlos Bryson won first prize, which was 50 cents.

### Girls' Prizes

Mrs. Jess Sloan and Mrs. W. B. McGuire were judges of the home economics class exhibits. Fruits and vegetables: First prize, ash stand, Blanche Southards; second prize, 10 pounds buck-wheat flour, Edna Holland. Sewing: First prize, a compact, Annie Bell Mashburn; second prize, pair of silk hose, Mary Bryant. Crochet and embroidery: First prize, one year's subscription to The Franklin Press, Jarvis Ledford; second prize, \$1, each, Grace Conley and Eloise Sherill. Pickles and relish: first prize, \$1.25, Agnes Raby; second prize, pair silk hose, Jenie Donaldson. Preserves, jellies and marmalade: First prize, \$1.25, Mary Bryant; second prize, sweater, Oliatta Potts.

In the prizes offered for laboratory exhibits, all were to remain the property of the class and the laboratory. Clothing: First prize, \$1.50, Grace Conley; second prize, 75 cents, Eloise Sherill. Jellies and marmalade: First prize China platter, Lucy Gray, second prize, China bowls, Mary Bryant and Maybelle Crisp. Fruits and vegetables: First prize, \$1, Lois Wells, Burnice Pendergrass, Annie Bell Mashburn and Jarvis Ledford; second prize, 25 pounds of flour, Janie Donaldson and Ruby Blaine.

The prizes were made possible by a gift of \$25 given by the Macon county commissioners and by the following business houses of Franklin: E. K. Cunningham and company gave a boy's tie and a pair of silk hose, Bryant Furniture company an ash tray, Macon County Supply company, a hammer; Sanders Store, a sweater; Trotter's, a belt; M. Blumenthal, girl's sweater; Jess and Mary's Shop, a pair silk hose; City Barber Shop, hair cut; The Franklin Press, two one-year subscriptions to the Press; Joseph Ashear, pair overalls; Franklin Hardware company, a pocket knife; Perry's Drug Store, a compact; and McClellan-Brown Mill, 25 pounds of buckwheat flour.

The Nantahala Creamery company had a fine display of creamery butter, the same make of butter that won the blue ribbon at the state fair, at Raleigh, last week.

## Clark's Chapel Dedication To Be Held Sunday Morning

The new Clark's Chapel Methodist church, a handsome stone edifice said to be the finest rural church in Western North Carolina, will be dedicated Sunday morning, it has been announced by H. C. Freeman, pastor of the Franklin circuit, who serves the church.

The church, modern in every respect, is the only stone church in Macon county. It has been built of native materials as far as possible. The structure has an auditorium of ample capacity for the community which it serves, five large class rooms, a furnace room and a social hall as large as the auditorium.

The cost of the church has been estimated at \$12,500, of which \$2,750 was contributed by the Duke Foundation. The balance was given by friends of the church and people of the community in the form of cash, labor and materials.

The Rev. L. B. Hayes, presiding elder of the Waynesville district, will preach the dedication sermon. The public is invited to attend the service.

At 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon the fourth quarterly conference of the Franklin circuit will be held at the Iotla Methodist church with Rev. Mr. Hayes presiding. Reports from various officers on the work of the past year will be read and officers elected for the ensuing year. Officials of all the churches in the circuit are urged to be present, as well as all who desire to attend the service.

A sale of pure bred Hereford beef cattle has been scheduled by Madison county farmers for Friday, Nov. 11, at Marshall.

## HOUK ANSWERS SCHOOL CRITICS

Says Salaries of Teachers  
And Principals Set  
By State

### SAYS COST REDUCED

Declares Establishment of  
New High School Is  
Impractical

In a statement made public this week, presumably in answer to political criticisms, G. L. Houk, principal of the Franklin schools, declared the salaries of public school teachers and principals are regulated by a state-wide schedule and that all of these salaries are paid by the state and not by the county for the six-month term.

Although Mr. Houk mentioned no names and made no references to local political contests, his statement bears unmistakable political significance. Evidently in answer to campaign promises of W. J. West, Republican candidate for county representative in the Legislature, that if elected he will endeavor to establish high schools in rural sections of the county, Mr. Houk pointed out that "there are not enough students in any school district in Macon county, with the exception of the Franklin and Highlands districts, to allow a standard high school to be operated." He also explained that the cost of any new school buildings "would have to come out of the taxpayers' pockets and would likewise make it impractical and burdensome."

Following is Mr. Houk's statement in full:

Since there have been so many changes in the method of operation and financing the schools of North Carolina during the past few years that some people may not completely understand and even may be misinformed about it, occurs to me that a statement covering the major features of the system of operation and financing as they may apply to the citizen and taxpayer, whether he be a patron of schools or not, might be worth while.

The principal cost of schools is the cost of salaries. All salaries of principals, my own included, and teachers in the schools of Macon county are fixed by the state-wide uniform minimum salary schedule which has been adopted for every county in the state by the general assembly. This schedule of salaries, which is uniform for the state which must be adopted by every county board of education, and used as a basis for the teachers in every school, is based on experience and training. For principals it is based on specific training for and experience in the actual work of operating schools and in addition the number of teachers under his jurisdiction and, therefore, his responsibility. This salary schedule fixes the salaries of both teacher and principal.

Discretion in the matter is removed from the board of education in every county who are legally required to follow this schedule in the preparation of their budgets and contracts.

### Paid by State

Money to pay these salaries does not come, like it once did, out of taxes raised from the levy on property of the taxpayers of Macon county. Every penny which goes toward the payment of EVERY school salary in Macon county for the six months term (Continued on page six)

## Sing Songs Sunday

Many Singers Expected  
For Convention

The Macon County Quarterly Singing convention will be held in the county courthouse next Sunday, instead of Nov. 30, as mistakenly reported in last week's issue of The Press.

One of the features of the day's program will be a class for old-fashioned Christian harmony quartets, it has been announced by J. M. Raby, president of the Macon singers' association.

Singers and choirs from South Carolina, Georgia and a number of Western North Carolina counties are expected to take part in the convention, as well as singers from all sections of Macon.

The singing is scheduled to start at 10 o'clock in the morning.

## At the Helm—In Time of Need!



## Cartoogechaye To Hold Community Fair Nov. 11

### WEAVER RAPS G. O. P. TARIFF

Tells Highlanders Nation's  
Wealth Has Dropped  
150 Billions

The nation's wealth has declined 150 billion dollars during the last four years of Republican administration and more than 10,000 banks have failed, Congressman Zeb Weaver, of Asheville, told a crowd gathered in the Highlands school house Tuesday night. Mr. Weaver was introduced by William Potts, a member of the Young People's Democratic club of Highlands.

Since 1929, Mr. Weaver continued, bank clearings have dropped from 700 billion dollars a year to less than 400 billions. When the speaker mentioned the names of Mellon and Mills, the guiding hands of the government's fiscal affairs under Hoover, the crowd interrupted with loud boos. He pointed out that the wealth of the Mellon family is estimated at eight billion dollars, more than twice the assessed valuation of all of North Carolina.

Explaining how high tariffs work to the detriment of the farmer and to the advantage of special interests, he said that a certain type of reaper manufactured in the United States is sold within this country for \$250, while the same company sells the same piece of machinery for \$130 in South America, where it has to compete with manufacturers of other countries.

### Agricultural Exhibits and Several Speeches on Program

A community fair for the Cartoogechaye section will be held at Slagle school on November 11, Armistice Day, under the supervision of the school's Parent-Teacher association and the community's "Five and Ten Year Farm Program" committee. Laddie Crawford is chairman of the "Five and Ten" group and J. J. Mann is chairman of the Parent-Teacher association.

Contests will be held in livestock, cattle, hogs, sheep, poultry, all sorts of farm products, canned goods, butter, kitchen products and household handiwork.

The program follows:

9 a. m.—Entries to be placed on exhibition.  
10 a. m.—Devotional exercises, conducted by Rev. S. R. Crockett.  
10:15 a. m.—An address by R. D. Sisk on the work of the Red Cross.

10:30 a. m.—An address by Rev. C. Duncan on "What the Red Cross Means Today."

11:00 a. m.—Announcement of judges' decisions and Red Cross Roll Call.

Noon—Dinner will be served on the grounds.

Everyone in the community is urged to attend the fair and to submit entries in the various contests. Those attending are urged to bring well filled lunch baskets.

During the afternoon there will be games and contests of different kinds for the boys of the community.

## A 'What Is It?' Reported At Large in Macon County

"What is it?" is the question on everybody's lips.

It howls or laughs like a hyena; some say it is a hyena, for didn't one escape a few weeks ago at Marion. But, although nearly everyone has heard it, few have seen it.

First it was reported last week in the Iotla section. A few chickens may have been missed, but as yet The Press has not heard of any greater depredations by this strange, howling animal that has stricken terror into several Macon county communities.

"Since reported on Iotla, this terrible animal has been heard screeching or screaming its weird noise in almost every section of the county and even in Franklin. It must be a fast traveler, else there are several of the beasts, for, strange to say, it has been reported at different and distant communities at virtually the same time.

Robert Cunningham says the animal chased him within the town

limits one night. Dr. W. H. Higgins reported he saw it Monday morning while squirrel hunting on the old camp ground.

"I saw it lying down in the brush just in front of me," said Dr. Higgins. "At first I thought it was a police dog. Then it occurred to me that it might be a young deer. Then it hopped up and started running in great leaps and I knew it wasn't a police dog, a deer or a bob cat. It looked different from anything I had ever seen. I fired on it at a distance of about 50 yards and saw the hair fly, but the squirrel shot didn't stop him."

"Bull," say some, "there's nothing to all of this talk about a hyena. There may have been an old cat or police dog roaming around. Or maybe it's just some boys trying to scare somebody."

Be that as it may, "What is it?" is still the question of the day and even politics can't obscure it until it is answered.

## WORK ON ROUTE NO. 28 DELAYED

Low Bids Submitted Last  
Thursday Rejected by  
Commission

### BIDS REQUESTED

November 3 Set for Opening of Revised Proposals on Road Work

Work on regrading and surfacing highway No. 28 west of Franklin has been delayed by the State Highway Commission pending the opening of new bids on November 3.

Bids were received by the commission last Thursday on these and a number of other projects to be undertaken with federal emergency relief funds, but were rejected as too high.

### Low Bids Announced

Low bids for the Macon county projects totaled \$158,756, divided as follows:

9.08 miles of traffic bound Mac Adam surfacing on route 28, Franklin to the foot of the Nantahala mountains, C. Y. Thomason, of Greenwood, S. C., \$89,532; structure, Hobbs-Peabody company, Charlotte, \$11,564.90.

6.49 miles of traffic bound Mac Adam on route 28, from the end of the above project to the present surfacing at Rainbow Springs, C. Y. Thomason, \$57,660.60.

Thomason also was low bidder for grading and surfacing of an unpaved link of No. 28 in Clay county. This concern was employed last year on the grading and surfacing of the approach to the new bridge over the Little Tennessee river.

### New Bids Asked

The bids were rejected on all of these projects and also on several others. The highway commission then advertised for new bids to be received until 10 a. m., Thursday, Nov. 3. The lettings will be subject to the provisions of the emergency relief and construction act, which provides for the employment of local unskilled labor as far as possible and sets a minimum wage of 20 cents an hour for unskilled help and 30 cents an hour for skilled workers.

## The Political Pot

Offer of Joint Campaign  
Not Accepted

W. J. West, Republican county chairman and nominee for representative, had failed Thursday to accept an invitation extended by the county Democratic committee for a joint speaking campaign of the county candidates of both parties. The proposal for the joint campaign was made Monday by Albert Ramsey, chairman of the Democratic committee, after he had consulted several of that party's candidates and members of the committee.

Meanwhile the candidates are pursuing separate campaigns.

Friday night C. L. Ingram, Sheriff A. B. Slagle and C. Tom Bryson, Democratic candidates for representative, sheriff and register of deeds, respectively, are scheduled to speak at the Kyle school; Saturday night at Liberty school; Monday at Iotla school; Tuesday, at Cowee school; Wednesday at Burningtown school; Thursday at Pine Grove; Friday, at Otto school; and Saturday, at the courthouse.

All of the speakings are to begin at 7:30. The Democratic candidates already have appeared at Etna, Highlands and Tellico.

The Republican candidates have not announced their schedule of speakings, but it is understood that they are planning to appear in every township in the county before the election on November 8.

### THOMAS IN N. C.

In a one-day campaign with speeches at Winston-Salem, High Point, Greensboro and Raleigh, Norman Thomas, Socialist candidate for president, brought his message to North Carolina on Saturday. He was heard by four large crowds.

### ASKS CANCELLATION

The United States was asked to cancel or greatly reduce the war debts owed by European nations, in an address by Benito Mussolini, Italian dictator, in a Sunday speech at Turin.