

As the World Turns

A Brief Survey of Current Events in State, Nation and Abroad—the Facts Boiled Down to a Few Pithy Lines.

ORDERS MINTING OF SILVER
President Roosevelt last week ordered government mints to coin silver for the producers, retaining half in the treasury reserve and returning half to the producers. Silver's price was thus raised by 21 cents and is now 64 1-2 cents per ounce.

GOVERNOR TACKLES TRAFFIC SNARL
Governor Ehringhaus has called the officers and citizens of North Carolina to a special month of effort, toward "checking the bloody tide" of traffic deaths and reducing the hazards of highway travel.

SIGN BURLEY AGREEMENT
The agricultural administration last week secured grower and buyer agreements to a marketing plan for burley tobacco grown in Kentucky, Tennessee and Western North Carolina. A minimum of 12 cents per pound will be paid for the current crop, the money to come from a process tax.

CITES BENEFITS OF CCC
In reporting to the president, Robert Fechner, director of the civilian conservation work, cited achievements of the 300,000 CCC workers in the first six months of the work. There were 400,000 days spent in fighting fires, 25,000 acres planted in trees, plantings started on 50,000 acres, disease and rodent control effected on over 6,000,000 acres of forest. Workers built 12,671 miles of trails, 4,229 bridges and 68,000 soil erosion dams.

SOUTH'S FARM INCOME DOUBLED
The department of agriculture reports that the 10 leading southern cotton states show \$1,537,415,000 was paid this year for farm products, as against only \$846,412,000 last year. Of the 1933 figures, \$185,000,000 was paid for acreage reduction contracts. Crop values in North Carolina this year were up at \$192,595,000 as against \$104,467,000 in 1932.

200 DIE IN FRENCH WRECK
In the worst railroad disaster in the history of France nearly 200 were killed outright and over 300 badly hurt near Lagny on Saturday night. The engineer and fireman were jailed, railroad officials claiming the two were driving the train through thick fog at 65 miles per hour.

AMNESTY FOR SLACKERS
President Roosevelt on Sunday extended amnesty to 1,500 Americans who evaded the World War draft, or actively opposed this country's participation in it. Nearly all had completed sentences, but few had been restored to rights of citizenship.

373 NURSES LICENSED
The North Carolina board of nurse examiners reports that of the 461 applicants for nursing license who took the recent examination, 373 passed the test, Miss Josephine Page of Sanatorium, making the highest grade. Twenty nurses from other states were licensed without examination.

Professional Ball Player Visits Native County
Vance Mauney, former professional ball player, and Lath Cunningham, of Reidsville, both natives of Macon county, spent the holidays with the parents of the latter, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cunningham of Iota.
Mr. Mauney, who has played with the South Atlantic League, and later with Detroit, New Haven, New York, and other big leagues, now holds the position as manager of the boxing department of the American Tobacco company.

1,941 Registered in Reemployment Office
The National Reemployment Service office in Macon county has registered a total of 1,941 persons since the opening date on August 30. Of this number 58 are women.
In the period that the office was registering the above number, placements have been found for 410, with about a 200 addition expected to be added before long.

Singing Convention Meets December 31
The Macon County Singing Convention will meet at the courthouse Sunday, December 31, at 10 o'clock for an all-day meeting. James M. Raby, chairman of the singing convention, requests all classes, solos and quartets to be present. Several classes from the adjoining counties, as well as from South Carolina and Georgia, will also be present.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR

BILL PICKENS HELD IN KILLING

JACKSON MAN GETS WILD RIDE

Kidnaping Being Investigated By Federal Officers

Kidnaped while en route to his home from Sylva shortly after 10 o'clock last Friday night, Frank Rhinehart, 37-year-old school principal of Webster, told a harrowing story of his experience during the 36 hours that he was held, threatened and tortured by his abductors.
Released "somewhere in Georgia" and placed in his own car by the kidnapers early Sunday morning Rhinehart stated he drove through Mountain City to Franklin where he telephoned from Peek Hotel to his brother who met him there and took him to the Community Hospital in Sylva where he received treatment for his bruises and remained 24 hours recovering from shock.

Tells of Threat
The kidnaping, according to the story told by Rhinehart, was preceded by serious threats made by two men whom he identified during a stay in Sylva Friday night. He said the two men approached him and threatened to kill him in a Sylva store. They left, he declared, making additional threats and urging him to remember that they would "get him."

Overtaking him outside of Dillsboro he was stopped by a car and two men got into his car and forced him to drive on, later being taken from his car, and another met them at several places during a wild ride when he was taken out from time to time and threatened in various ways, Rhinehart related. "I was taken out of the car and one of the men said, 'Here's a good place to get rid of him; let's just cut his head off.'"

Hands and Feet Tied
"My hands and feet were tied and I was put back in the car. The men kept driving all Saturday with a stop now and then."
"Sometime early Saturday night I heard a train blow and one of the party said 'Let's put him in front of the train.' The car was stopped and I could hear the train approaching. I was then taken
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Christmas Pageant

The pageant, "The Wondrous Gift" which was given by members of the B. Y. P. U., directed by Mrs. Eugene R. Eller, was well presented at the First Baptist church here Monday night to a large audience.
The cast was as follows: Shepherds: Alex Moore, J. H. Carelock, Bill Cunningham, J. B. Pennington and Ralph Welch; wise men: Henry Wilkie, E. B. DeHart, Dan Wilkie; the inn keeper, E. E. Sypher; the Rabbi, Reid Womack; Mary, Miss Helen Shepherd; Joseph, Fred Childers.
Fourteen girls of the B. Y. P. U. represented angels, and a group of children and grown-ups were the people of Bethlehem.
The junior choir, directed by Mrs. Gilbert, beautifully sang four songs preceding the pageant.

12,000 Pounds of Pork For Distribution To Needy

Macon county has approximately 12,000 pounds of government salt pork for distribution to those who need it. In order to better serve the people and make it possible for them to receive the supplies as quickly as possible, arrangements have been made with G. C. Stamey for a distribution center to be established in the rear of his store in the old Farmers Federation building. Miss Charlotte Conley will have charge of the distribution. The store room will be open on every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Monday.
This central store-room will serve the people of the following school districts:

First Loan on Warehoused Corn



The first loan by bankers on warehoused corn was given to W. W. Eral of Pocahontas, Iowa, by banker C. E. Watts. Eral received \$355, the first loan of \$75,000,000, expected to be loaned to Iowa farmers. Left to right are Mr. Watts, Mr. Eral, Mrs. Eral and their baby, Jean.

Farm Credit Administration To Pass Upon Applications

President Ernest Graham of the Production Credit Corporation has made the following announcement in connection with the Farm Credit Administration, extending loans to credit groups of farmers, of which the Franklin Production Credit Association organized last week is a part:
Practically all Production Credit Associations necessary to supply farmers with production loans in the Third Land Bank District have applied for their charters and the end of the week will see all applications passed upon by the Farm Credit Administration and in many instances local associations ready to do business.

Many farmers are asking how they will go about obtaining loans where the association includes several counties. President Graham states that while the details are as yet incomplete, arrangements will be made whereby a farmer desiring a loan will not have to go beyond some central point in his county, regardless of the location of the association headquarters.
"Our aim," said President Graham, "is to make production credit available to farmers with the minimum effort on their part. However, we are anxious for farmers to take an interest in their associations as it is hoped they will eventually own and operate themselves."

Loans To Cooperatives
In response to many inquiries from cooperative associations throughout the district regarding the functions of the Columbia Bank for Cooperatives, President Alfred Scarborough has announced the following: "The main purpose of our bank is to assist cooperatives who desire the character of financing associations engaged in the production of agricultural products. In order for a cooperative to avail itself of the services of this bank, it is necessary for it to comply with the Capper-Volstead Act, the main conditions being as follows:
(a) "That persons in the production of agricultural products as farmers, planters, ranchmen, dairymen, nut or fruit growers may act together in associations, corporate or otherwise, with or without capital stock, in collectively processing, preparing for market, handling, and marketing in interstate and foreign commerce such products of persons so engaged."
This, and other language which appears in the Act, make it plain that a cooperative association to come within the Act must have ONLY PRODUCERS as voting stockholders or members;
(b) Associations that desire to
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CLOSED BANKS PAYING OUT
The state banking department reports that in this year closed banks have paid \$2,040,284 to their depositors and \$5,444,861 to preferred claimants.

Union, Maple Springs, Oak Ridge Watauga, Holly Springs, Mashburn Branch, Clark's Chapel, Patton, Olive Hill and Iota.

In all of the districts named above, those who need pork should first see the Red Cross or Relief Committee in their particular community and get an order to present to the store-room keeper to receive it.

JAPAN CELEBRATES BIRTH
Japanese are wildly celebrating on Saturday the birth of an heir to the Japanese throne. The four previous children born to Emperor Hirohito and Empress Nakago are girls. The nation had prayed the fifth child should be a prince.

RED CROSS ROLL TO BE CLOSED

Only One-Half of the Assigned Quota Has Been Reached

The Annual Roll for the American Red Cross will be completed this week according to the Rev. J. A. Flanagan, chairman of the Roll Call for the Macon county chapter. The report shows that only about one-half of the assigned quota for the county has been reached. The best report comes from Highlands township under the leadership of Prof. O. F. Summer, roll chairman of the township. Mr. Summer reports 47 members enrolled in the township. A total of 141 memberships have been received in the county with \$167 having been collected for the Roll Call. All workers are being asked to complete their drive as quickly as possible and forward their results to the Roll Call chairman. Any members who have not been solicited or turned in their memberships are asked to leave them with Harold Sloan at Sloan Bros. store on Main street.
The following memberships have been received since the last published list in The Press-Maconian: J. Horner Stockton, Miss Rose Rogers, Mrs. Tom Slagle, Rev. C. C. Herbert, Jr., Mrs. Maysa Crawford, Miss Grace Carpenter, Miss Carolyn Nolen, J. H. Stone, Mrs. J. H. Stone, Mrs. Claude Russell, Ralph Womack, Richard R. Johnson, Harry Higgins.
From Highlands the following have been added: Miss Marguerite Ravenel, Miss Claire Ravenel, H. M. Bascom and Mrs. H. M. Bascom.

This county having so freely received aid through the National Red Cross the quota of 300 is a membership which should be easily within reach of its resources. Mr. Flanagan expresses confidence that Macon will not fail to meet this number when all solicitors complete the territory assigned them.

Hand Injured

By the Explosion of a Dynamite Cap

Ray Swafford, the small son of Mr. and Mrs. Perry Swafford, who live near the residence of C. A. Setser, suffered the loss of three fingers and thumb on his left hand Saturday morning about 8 o'clock, when a dynamite cap, with which he was playing exploded.
Mrs. Swafford found the dynamite cap in the basement and not knowing what it was gave it to Ray to play with. He too, not knowing, began examining it with a stick, which resulted in the explosion.
Young Swafford was rushed to Angel Brothers' hospital where he was treated and was last reported to be doing nicely.

\$2 TAX FOR WHISKIES

The Democratic majority on the powerful house ways and means committee has approved a \$2 per gallon tax on spirits, will oppose the sharing of whisky tax receipts with states, will favor a double tariff levy on imported whiskies to enable the president to bargain with exporting countries for trade.

Educational Plan For C. C. C. Is Approved By President

An educational program for the 300,000 men in the Civilian Conservation Corps, which has been approved by the president, is now in effect. One educational advisor is being placed in each of the 1,466 forest work camps. General and vocational subjects will be offered and a chance given each worker to improve his education.
Pointing out that a great number of the young men in the forest corps had but a meager education, Robert Fechner, director of the Emergency Conservation Work, stated that forestry and agriculture would also be taught with a view to assisting many of them to become adjusted to a new mode of

Fred Stiwinter is Shot Saturday on Walnut Creek

More Christmas Buying Than Usual
Christmas buying was heavy in Franklin this season, and Franklin merchants report that trade was much better than has been enjoyed for several years. Although there was an abundance of special Christmas stock provided by all the stores—the shop windows presenting a gala array that vied with Chief Henry's Christmas tree on the town square—the supply proved inadequate in many instances. Long before closing time staple stocks of fruits and dry goods were exhausted before the onslaught of happy Christmas shoppers. One merchant reported the sale of more than 100 bushels of oranges alone.
The spring-like weather made possible the largest crowds that Franklin has witnessed for many moons, adding to the joy of Christmas preparation and holiday festivities. The increased payroll exceeding \$5,000 in Macon county, due to the CWA program which has supplied work to a large number during the last few weeks, was one of the factors that stimulated holiday trade and made a happy Christmas for hundreds of Macon's citizens, young and old.

INQUEST HELD

Verdict, Stiwinter "Came To Death By a Wound Inflicted by Pickens"

Fred Stiwinter, 34, son of George Stiwinter, was shot and fatally wounded in a fight about 10:30 Saturday night on Walnut Creek, near the home of Randolph Keener, about 13 miles east of Franklin, and Billy Pickens, 63, was arrested and held for his death.
Stiwinter died at Angel Brothers' hospital a moment after arrival, at 11 o'clock. Inquest was held by Coroner C. M. Moore at 1 o'clock Sunday morning in the operating room of the hospital, and the verdict was found from evidence that Stiwinter "came to his death by a wound inflicted by Billy Pickens."
Henry Stiwinter, brother of the slain man, testified that trouble began a few days previous when Pickens accused their sister, Mrs. George Gregory, of trying to shield the person who burned Charlie Jones' barn and house a few nights before. He said he was about 15 feet away when he heard quarreling in the darkness and saw a pistol flash and heard the report. "I am shot in the stomach" someone said. Another voice said, "I am shot in the head."
Dr. Ed Angel showed a 32 caliber bullet in evidence which had passed through the lower part of the heart and through the liver, lodging in the back.
Other witnesses, it was stated, but who were not at the inquest, were Charlie Henry and Emory McCoy, driver of a car in which Billy Pickens was riding.
Just before the inquest started Deputies Frank Leach and John Bills arrested Pickens, who had been found at his boarding place at the home of Ben Gibson, in the Gold Mine section, 10 miles from the scene of the shooting.
Interviewed at the jail by a representative of the United Press, Billy Pickens stated that he was attending a candy pulling and that all were having a good time. About 10 o'clock when he was starting home he stated he heard Fred Stiwinter ask, "Is Billy Pickens there?" and got out of the car, walking towards him. "Fred was waiting for me with an open knife and lunged toward me in the dark, cutting my head and I couldn't see any more." Besides the knife cut on his head there are many cuts and bruises on his face supposedly inflicted by rocks.
Pickens stated that he was attacked by two men who got on him and held him down by both wrists, and that Fred's hold on his wrists had to be broken when Fred was shot.
Fred Stiwinter was put into the car immediately and Pickens rode with them for three miles, walking the rest of the way to his boarding place.
Pickens, who has worked in and around Franklin for a number of years, is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Masons and Odd Fellows. He is out on \$5,000 bond. The preliminary hearing was postponed December 26 to Friday, January 5, at 2 p. m.
Stiwinter was a farmer and unmarried. The funeral was held at 2:30 o'clock on Sunday afternoon at Walnut Creek.

CANTATA GIVEN SUNDAY NIGHT

"Messiah" by Handel Presented At Methodist Church

The presentation of the "Messiah" by Handel, at the First Methodist church Sunday evening was a great success. The church was packed to its capacity.
The community chorus was made up of members of the McDowell Music club, of Franklin. With the church beautifully decorated and the lights turned out to give place to a large number of candles the scene was impressive.
James Bryson Porter, organist of the Methodist church, was director and organist. Some of the singers were: Sopranos, Mrs. Dick Hudson, Mrs. N. C. Duncan, Mrs. Don Young, Miss Edwina Dalrymple, Miss Alba Peck, Miss Betty Leach; altos, Mrs. Harold Sloan, Mrs. Thomas J. Johnston, Mrs. C. C. Herbert, Jr., Miss Georgia Dady, Miss Rosalind Bulgin, Miss Willie Mae Ledford, Miss Virginia Slagle, and Miss Velma Peck; tenors, George Carpenter, Jr., Thomas J. Johnston; basses, Dr. Solms, Roy C. Dady, and E. E. Eaton. A violin solo, "Largo" by Handel, was rendered by William Bressler of Oakland, Calif. "Joy to the World" music by Handel, was sung by the congregation.

WATCH SERVICE TO BE HELD
A union watch night service will be observed by the young people's organizations of the community in the First Baptist church on Sunday night, December 31. The service will begin at 11:15 p. m. and will close a few minutes after midnight. Special music, talks and readings will feature the program. Everyone is invited to attend this service.