

# The Franklin Press



and  
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\$1.50 PER YEAR

## POWER RATES ARE REDUCED

### Changes Said To Amount To a Reduction of 15 Per Cent

Since the first of July last year the Nantahala Power and Light company, which serves electricity consumers in Franklin, Andrews, Robbinsville and Cashiers Valley, has reduced its rates in three schedules. These reductions, notice of which was recently filed with the state utilities commission at Raleigh, amount to a cut of about 15 per cent, according to power company officials, and will save consumers from \$3,000 to \$5,000 a year.

Stanley Winborne, state utilities commissioner, was quoted in a news dispatch from Raleigh as stating that the Nantahala company had informed him the reductions would put its rates at 62-100 of a cent above the TVA rate, if the difference between taxes on the Nantahala and the TVA is considered. He pointed out that the Nantahala pays 19.7 per cent of its gross receipts in taxes, according to officials of the company. The gross revenue of the Nantahala company from domestic and commercial users last year was said to be about \$21,000.

The latest rate reduction made by the Nantahala company became effective December 20. It was in the residential lighting schedule, which formerly called for a flat energy charge of five cents per KWH, in addition to the demand charge of \$1 per month for five rooms and 10 cents extra for each additional room. Under the new schedule the demand charge remains the same, but the energy charge has been reduced to three cents per KWH for all energy consumed in excess of 25 KWH, all under that amount remaining at five cents.

Last July the company changed its combination schedule for residential lighting, cooking, water heating and refrigeration, eliminating all demand charges and establishing a rate of three cents per KWH for the first 200 KWH and two cents for the excess energy consumed.

In October the commercial service lighting rate was changed. The base charge in this schedule formerly was six cents for the first 1,500 KWH per month, with a charge of three cents for all energy consumed above this amount. This was changed so that the three cent rate applies to all power used above 100 KWH. The demand charge of \$1 for the first half KW contracted, plus 50 cents for each additional KW contracted continues in force.

## Macon Circuit Has First Quarterly Meeting

The Rev. Mr. Rawlings, presiding elder of the Waynesville district of the Methodist church, conducted the first quarterly meeting on the Macon circuit Sunday at Union church.

## Dr. Haymore To Conduct Meetings Here in May

The First Baptist church has secured the services of Dr. James Monroe Haymore, Baptist evangelist of Atlanta, Ga., for a series of meetings to begin May 19.

Dr. Haymore is known over a large part of the southern Baptist convention and has held pastorates on some of the leading churches in Georgia and was a pastor in Kentucky for a number of years. He was superintendent of evangelism for the Baptist state convention of Missouri for five years and has held meetings in the largest Baptist churches in that state.

## Ray to Raleigh Says He Contemplates No New Local Laws

J. Frank Ray, Franklin attorney, left Sunday for Raleigh to assume his seat as Macon county's representative in the General Assembly, which convened for its regular biennial session Wednesday.

It is Mr. Ray's first term in the legislature. His father, the late J. Frank Ray, was an outstanding figure in the assembly for many years, having served both in the house and the senate for a number of terms—exactly how many no one seems to recall.

Before leaving for Raleigh Mr. Ray said he had no local legislation in view at this time and declined to state whom he would recommend for appointment to the county school board.

Concerning state legislative matters, he said he favored retention of the sales tax and higher pay for school teachers.

## BOARD STUDIES DEBT PROBLEM

### Seeks Names of Firms En- gaged in Refinancing Negotiations

Preliminary steps looking toward action to refinance Macon county's bonded indebtedness has been taken by the board of county commissioners, it was learned this week.

C. Tom Bryson, register of deeds and clerk of the board, said he had been authorized by the board to request the local government commission at Raleigh to recommend the names of organizations engaged in negotiating bond refinancing. He added that he had written the commission and expected soon to receive a reply.

No definite plans of refinancing the county's debt have been submitted to the board as yet, Mr. Bryson stated. Members of the board, however, are known to realize the importance of the debt problem and are giving it their close attention, hopeful of finding some solution that will wipe out bond defaults without an undue burden upon the taxpayers.

## Half Holiday

### Courthouse To Close at Noon On Saturdays

The Macon county commissioners Monday authorized a half day holiday on Saturdays for courthouse officials and employees.

The board adopted a resolution empowering the register of deeds, the clerk of court and the sheriff to close their offices at noon on Saturdays, if they saw fit to do so. "The NRA has shortened hours for nearly everybody else," one courthouse official said. "So we might as well go on NRA, too."

## REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA

In 1918 the independence of the republic of Armenia was recognized, but in 1920 a Bolshevik movement set up the Armenian Socialist Soviet Republic, and Armenia is now included in the U. S. S. R.

## SUBSTITUTE FOR SUGAR

Saccharine is the imide of ortho-sulphobenzoic acid and is called scientifically orthobenzoic sulphimide. It was discovered by Ira Remsen and C. Fahlberg in 1879 in the course of an investigation carried out at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md. It is a coal tar product. It must be remembered in using it that it is many times sweeter than sugar. About 1-8 grain tablet is sufficient for a cup of coffee or tea.

# Bond Sentiment Changing; Increased Supply of Water Seen Necessary for Cannery

## EDITORIAL

### An Opportunity of a Lifetime

FRANKLIN has a fair chance of obtaining a cooperative marketing organization and cannery which would increase this community's annual income by many thousands of dollars.

It is estimated that the first year of operation the cannery and the marketing center together should put upwards of \$75,000 into the pockets of Macon county farmers. Besides, the cannery would employ between 100 and 125 men and women when in full operation. That would mean a payroll many times larger than any the town now has. And, of course, more money in the pockets of Macon county farmers will mean more money in the pockets of the folks in town. If the countryside prospers, the town will.

Everybody realizes, or should realize, that this county needs improved marketing facilities for crops, especially truck crops. The cannery and co-op organization would go a long way toward fulfilling this need. The Tennessee Valley Associated Cooperatives, backed by Uncle Sam himself, would supervise the cannery and supply the operating capital. If the TVAC puts the cannery here, there need be no fear that it will be a flash in the pan. It will be the best thing that ever happened to this community.

This is an opportunity of a lifetime. But there is small chance that we will reap the benefits of it unless the Town of Franklin can assure the TVAC an ample supply of water for the cannery. That means 40,000 to 50,000 gallons of water a day—a third of our present supply, which is barely ample for present demands.

If that is not sufficient argument to convince the people of Franklin that they should approve the water improvement bond issue in the special election January 22, we fear there is little hope for the future progress of the community. If the average taxpayer isn't willing to pay a few dollars more taxes a year to insure an adequate water supply for himself and to provide enough to take care of reasonable expansion, especially when it involves such an opportunity as the TVAC has offered us, the inevitable conclusion is that we have reached that point of collective shortsightedness and self-satisfaction which makes future development of the community or its residents most improbable.

It is sincerely hoped that the people of Franklin will not allow their better judgment to be hampered to the detriment of their own welfare by petty play upon personal animosities, or that they will be misled into accepting the unauthoritative propaganda and unfounded opinions of streetcorner wiseacres, who know more about anything and everything than all the universities in the land, in preference to the findings and recommendations of reputable engineers.

## Questions on Bond Issue Answered by Town Board

Following is a copy of a circular letter sent to Franklin residents this week by the board of aldermen answering questions concerning the proposed issuance of \$91,000 bonds for water and sewer improvements:

Franklin, N. C.  
January 7, 1935.

Members of the Town Board are being asked many questions in regard to the bond issue. Since this is an issue of vital importance, it seems well that the Board should acquaint the voters with some of the salient facts. To do this, we undertake to answer some of the questions that are being asked.

1. What is the amount of bonds to be issued?  
A—\$75,500.00 for water supply and extension of mains; \$15,500.00 for disposal plant and extension of sewer lines.
2. Are they to be voted on together or separately?  
A—Separately.
3. To whom will the bonds be sold?  
A—To the United States Govern-

- ment.
  4. What will be the rate of interest?  
A—4%.
  5. How does this compare with interest on previous bonds?  
A—Interest on previous bonds has been 6%.
  6. Is there a gift to the Town in connection with the construction of water and sewer systems?  
A—Yes, 30% of all cost of labor and materials will be paid for by the Government. The balance of the expenses will be paid out of the money derived from the sale of the 4% bonds which are sold to the Government.
  7. Does all the money used in both projects come from the Federal Government in Washington?  
A—Yes.
  8. Is the present water system adequate?  
A—No. With normal rainfall, there is no room for expansion, either in population or industry. In time
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## Registration Reaches 470; Election To Be Held January 22

Sentiment in the municipal bond issue campaign began to shift this week with proponents of the \$91,000 issue for water and sewer improvements warning that failure of the bonds to carry in the special election January 22 might jeopardize Franklin's opportunity of obtaining a large produce cannery to be operated by the Tennessee Valley Associated Cooperatives.

Belief that the likelihood of establishment of the cannery here would depend in a large degree upon an increased supply of water was heightened by a statement of J. E. Barr, TVAC cannery supervisor, in a letter to F. S. Sloan, Macon county farm agent. The letter, mailed from Waynesville January 5, contained this statement:

"I cannot lay too much stress on the water question, as a cannery of this size will use in the neighborhood of forty to fifty thousand gallons per day and cannot operate without it. At some of the plants now established the water question is serious and we could hardly consider establishing more plants unless we were sure the supply would be sufficient for the needs of the cannery."

### Unusual Opportunity

"The citizens of your county," Mr. Barr concluded, "should not look upon this project lightly, as an opportunity of this kind may not be presented to them in a long time to come."

Mr. Sloan reported that Mr. Barr had informed him the cannery would employ between 100 and 125 men and women when in full operation, and that the farmers of the county should receive the first year between \$75,000 and \$100,000 as a result of establishment of the cannery and a co-op marketing organization to be operated in connection with it.

The amount of water deemed necessary for the cannery, it was estimated by town authorities, is equal to about one-third of the present supply and this supply is barely sufficient to take care of present demands.

### 470 Registered

George Carpenter, appointed registrar for the bond election, has been kept busy registering voters during the past week. He reported a total registration at 10 o'clock Thursday morning of 470. He said he could venture no opinion as to the outcome of the election, but added that there had been a considerable change of sentiment in favor of the bonds during the past week, judging by the comments of registrants.

"Most of them at first seemed against the bonds," he said, "but, as far as I can tell, more and more of those registering are in favor of them. I can't say how things will be by the time of the election."

### Books Close Saturday

The registration books will close at 6 p. m. Saturday, which also will be challenge day. An issue of \$75,500 bonds is proposed for water improvements, and \$15,500 for sewer improvements. The Public Works Administration has approved the projects and agreed to buy the bonds at par on a four per cent interest basis, and to donate thirty per cent of the cost of labor and materials, if the bond election carries.