

# The Franklin Press



and  
The Highlands Maconian

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FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, JAN. 31, 1935

\$1.50 PER YEAR

## 2 RAY BILLS ARE ENACTED

### Provide for 12 - Month Grand Juries and Larger Town Board

Beginning with the April term of superior court, grand juries in Macon county will be selected to serve for 12 months, instead of for just the current term of court, under terms of a bill sponsored by Representative J. Frank Ray which has been enacted by the General Assembly at Raleigh. Another Ray bill which has been ratified into law provides for increasing the number of members of Franklin's board of aldermen from three to six.

The grand jury bill, which was introduced in the house and passed on Saturday, January 19, was approved by the Senate last Thursday and ratified by both houses the following day. The measure to increase the size of the town board also was introduced in the house and passed on the 19th. Its ratification after passage in the senate came Monday night.

Most of the counties of the state, The Press-Maconian has been informed, are already operating under measures providing for standing grand juries. In some counties the juries are selected for six months, in others for a year. Judge J. Will Pless, Jr., was reported to have advised a standing grand jury for Macon county.

"It will be fine," commented one Franklin attorney, "if we get a good grand jury; but if we get one that is not so good . . . well, we will have to put up with it for a year."

Franklin had a six-member board of aldermen until two years ago when its membership was reduced to three by a local law sponsored by the late Representative C. L. Ingram. Mr. Ray's measure repeals the Ingram act and a six-member board is to be voted upon in the May election.

Considerable interest was aroused at the courthouse Thursday by news from Raleigh of the introduction of a bill by Senator Vance Browning which would require the state to assume responsibility for the payment of all outstanding road bonds issued by counties. The measure carries a clause providing for an increase of one cent in the gasoline tax to supplement present funds of the highway commission for paying off the bonds. C. Tom Bryson, register of deeds and clerk of the county board of commissioners, estimated enactment of such a measure would save Macon county many thousands of dollars. The county's tax rate, he figured, could be reduced to 60 cents or less. Not much hope was seen here, however, for enactment of the Browning bill, as there is strong opposition to any proposal for increasing the gasoline tax.

Representative Ray was reported to have joined with other western legislators in an effort to force out of committee a bill to extend the hunting season in 10 western counties, including Macon.

Reports that Ray was contemplating legislation to authorize fishing without licenses in the Nantahala river, as well as in the Little Tennessee, spurred some of the trout anglers of Franklin into action. They claimed that if such legislation were enacted the Nantahala river soon would be fished out. A petition against the opening of the Nantahala in Macon county to unlicensed fishermen was reported to be in circulation.

### Rev. R. R. McCarty Patient at Hospital

The Rev. Raymond R. McCarty, pastor of the Highlands Presbyterian church, was reported to be improving at Angel Hospital today following an operation for removal of a kidney stone.

## Reward Raised

### \$50 More Offered by Jack Sanders for Robbers

Town and county authorities scratched their heads in puzzlement the past week trying to solve the mystery of two store robberies on the night of Tuesday, January 22, but they had few clues to work on and their head-scratching was of little avail. What clues they had they traced down, but they led up blind alleys.

Jack Sanders, from whose store approximately \$1,350 merchandise was taken, posted an additional reward of \$50 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the guilty parties. This brought the total of rewards offered to \$250, as the town already had put up \$100 and Sheriff Slagle another \$100.

## BAPTISTS OPEN MEETING HERE

### Ministers Holding Two- Day Conference at Local Church

A two-day conference of Baptist ministers of 17 associations in Western North Carolina opened Thursday morning at the First Baptist church with the Rev. J. B. Grice, of Asheville presiding.

Approximately 35 ministers had registered for the conference at the luncheon hour, but many others were expected to arrive during the day to take part in the conference.

Following is a program of the conference:

**Thursday**  
11:00—Devotional, J. L. Underwood, Hayesville.  
11:30—Sermon, R. L. Wyatt, Asheville.

12:00—Dinner (Alternate John T. Riddle, Spruce Pine).

**Afternoon Session**  
1:30—Devotions, Smoot Baker, Enka.

1:45—Uniting Evangelism and Social service, Broadus E. Jones, Hendersonville.

Round table discussion.

2:45—Pastoral activities:  
Funerals, J. B. Grice, Asheville.

Visiting, James A. Ivey, Asheville.

Prayer meetings, R. E. Powell, Burnsville.

Round table discussion.

4:00—Adjournment.

**Evening Session**  
7:30—Song and Prayer service.

7:45—Baptist World Alliance, J. C. Canipe, Boone.

8:30—Missionary sermon—Paul Hartsell, Brevard. (Alternate E. Gibson Tavis, Asheville).

**Friday Morning Session**  
9:00—Devotions, O. J. Hagler, Black Mountain.

9:15—Organization and miscellaneous.

9:30—The pastor and his relation to church finances, J. C. Pipes, Asheville.

10:00—The Book of Hebrews, A. V. Joyner, Canton.

10:30—Baptist and Christian Education, R. L. Moore, Mars Hill.

11:00—Sermon, T. F. Deitz, Beta.

Delegates to the conference are being entertained in the homes of members of the First Baptist church.

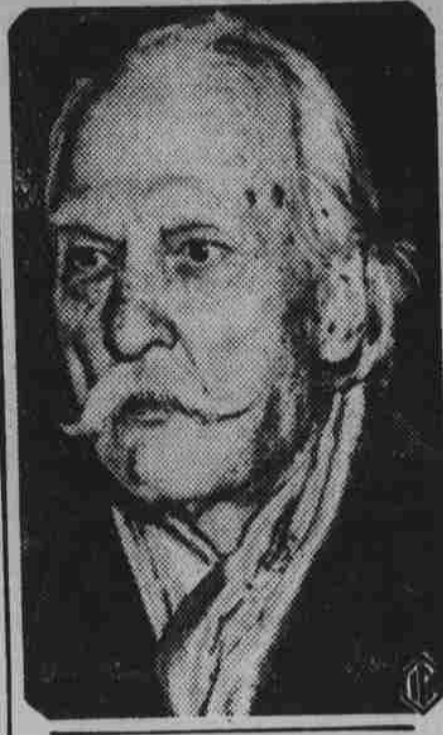
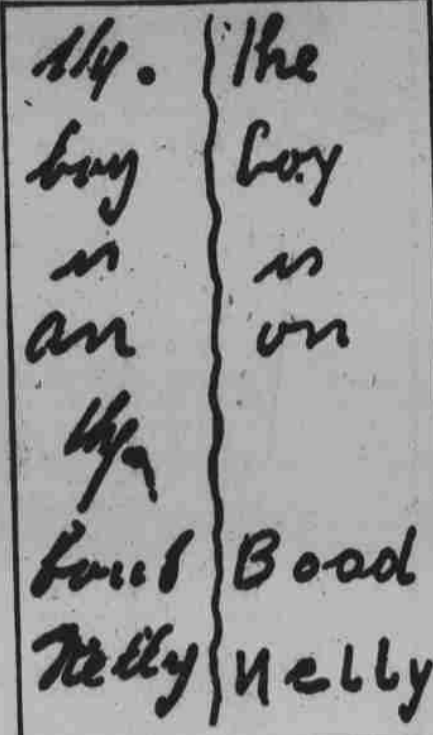
The public was invited by the Rev. E. R. Eller, pastor of the church, to attend any of the services in connection with the conference.

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**6,000 Pounds of  
Lespedeza Seed Ordered**

A cooperative order for 6,000 pounds of lespedeza seed for Macon county farmers was sent off Saturday by F. S. Sloan, county farm agent. Fifty farmers participated in the pooled order.

## Compares Writing for Defense



Written by Ransom note Hauptmann writing

Samuel C. Malone

Dean of the handwriting experts called to testify for the defense in the trial of Bruno Richard Hauptmann at Flemington, N. J., for the Lindbergh baby murder, is Samuel C. Malone, of Baltimore. Left, exhibit of Hauptmann's and ransom note handwriting introduced at the trial.

## National Forest Grazing Regulations Are Outlined

### 1,629 Cattle Grazed in Nantahala Forest Last Year

Information concerning the grazing of livestock in the Nantahala National Forest has been made public by R. C. Dady, a member of the forest's headquarters office staff.

The grazing season in the forest, Mr. Dady said, has been set from May 1 to October 31, for cattle, horses and mules; from May 1 to November 30 for sheep and goats, and for hogs the entire year. There is a limit to the total number of stock that is allowed to graze, but so far this limit has not been reached. A man living within the Nantahala boundaries, or near by, is allowed to graze 10 head of domestic animals free of charge, but these must be under permit. The forest service wants to know what stock and how many are making use of its lands. Any stock running at large on the forest service lands, not under permit, is under trespass, and the owner is subject to prosecution. More than 10 head grazed must be paid for at the rate of so much per head.

**Charges Outlined**

The charge for the calendar year 1934 for cattle and hogs was 47 cents per head, horses and mules 62 cents per head and for sheep and goats 17 cents per head. Mr. Dady said, "It is not considered that the revenue to the government from grazing fees pays for the extra work required of the forest officers or the trouble it entails but the forest service is interested in the welfare of the people in and near the forest, and if the privilege of grazing helps them to make their bread and butter, the forest officers are glad to cooperate."

Some areas of the Nantahala National forest are closed entirely to grazing. This measure is to prevent stock from biting off young trees that are sprouting and growing. The prime purpose of the forest service is to raise trees, and grazing is only incidental and to help residents, but when grazing defeats the purpose of the forest

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**G. L. Houk Passes  
State Bar Examination**

Of 85 applicants for law licenses who took the state bar examination in Raleigh the early part of this week, 32 passed the test, among them Guy Lackey Houk, principal of the Franklin school. Mr. Houk was the only one from Macon county who took the test this time.

## LEGION NAMES KARLING CHIEF

### Plans for Banquet To Be Discussed at Next Meeting

Alfred R. Karling, an employe of the Nantahala National Forest, was elected commander of the Macon county post of the American Legion, succeeding G. L. Houk, at a meeting of the post in the courthouse Monday night.

Other officers elected were Tom Moss, vice commander; A. R. Higdon, adjutant; L. J. Dalton, sergeant-at-arms.

The legion plans to hold one meeting in February—on the evening of Monday, the 18th—and thereafter to have two meetings regularly each month on scheduled dates. After the election of officers at the last meeting plans were discussed for making the Macon post more active. At the February meeting, it was announced, arrangements will be made to put on an American Legion banquet at a later date. All legionnaires and ex-service men were urged to make it a particular point to attend this meeting.

### Henry Miller Injured In Auto Accident

Henry Miller, of Waynesville, is in Angel hospital recovering from serious injuries suffered last Thursday night when an automobile he was driving got out of control and somersaulted off highway No. 285 at a turn about two hundred yards east of the bridge over the Little Tennessee river. Miller sustained a fractured spine, fractured pelvis and a broken arm. Witnesses of the accident said a door of the car swung open when it plunged from the road and that the driver was hurled high into the air. They thought he was dead when they reached his side, but he later recovered consciousness at the hospital.

### Slingshot Wound Causes Loss of Boy's Eye

A missile from a slingshot in the hands of another boy cost Clayton Ramsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ramsey, of Iotla, the sight of one of his eyes Thursday. The mishap occurred while the boys were playing at school. The Ramsey lad was taken to Angel Hospital, where it was found his eye had been so seriously wounded that its removal was necessary.

## SLOAN CALLS MASS MEETING

### Plans for Farm Betterment Program Will Be Discussed

A mass meeting of Macon county farmers and business men has been called for 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon in the courthouse to discuss plans for Macon county's participation in an agricultural betterment program soon to be launched in Western North Carolina with the aid of the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The TVA, it was announced at a meeting of farmers and farm extension workers in Asheville last Thursday, is willing to pay the expenses of assistant farm agents in 15 counties in the Tennessee Valley tributary area if the counties are willing to cooperate in the farm betterment program. It is with view to ascertaining the attitude of the people of Macon county that Mr. Sloan has called the mass meeting to be held Saturday.

In a circular letter, sent out this week announcing the meeting, the farm agent said:

"We have an opportunity to receive help and cooperation from TVA on a county wide program that is designed for the upbuilding of the county as a whole, if we take advantage of it. Last Thursday a number of farmers, business men and myself attended a district meeting in Asheville where the program was discussed by TVA officials and others and it was the opinion of the group from this county that by all means Macon county should join in the program and get the assistance from TVA.

**Must Organize**  
"In order to get this help we were instructed that the first thing to do was to call a countywide meeting of farmers and business men to discuss the plan and then, if it was the desire of the group to go ahead, to set up a simple county organization. When this is done and the results reported showing that the farmers and business men want this help and cooperation from TVA, they are ready to go ahead with their part of the program.

"I am sure that the interest shown Saturday will be of help to us in getting further help from TVA on other projects and I believe the best way to show interest is to be at the meeting and take a part in it. This program will be of help to every section of the county but will largely be determined by the interest of the persons from those sections, so be present Saturday and have your neighbors here also."

**Aim of Movement**  
At the meeting in Asheville last Thursday it was stated that greater agricultural prosperity in Western North Carolina is an aim of this movement, with conservation of the soil one of the major objectives.

### 2 Saw Way to Freedom From County Jail

Clyde Conley, of Swain county, and Woodrow Dillard, of the Aquone section, who were being held in jail in default of bond awaiting trial at the spring term of superior court, sawed their way to freedom last Friday night. They are believed to have used hacksaws alleged to have been smuggled in to them by a brother of Conley who was said to have been mentally deficient. After cutting the iron bars of their cell window the men made a rope of blanket and slid to the ground, escaping unnoticed. They had not been caught Thursday.

Conley was being held for trial on a charge of larceny. He was accused of breaking into Jeff Enloe's smokehouse recently. Dillard was held on a charge of breaking into a store at Aquone.