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FARMER CAN GET DEBT AID

Readjustment Plan Paves Way To Stave off Foreclosure

Plans to assist worthy but hard-pressed farmers to stave off foreclosure on their farms were discussed at a meeting of the Macon County Farm Debt Adjustment committee in the Bank of Franklin Wednesday.

Meeting with the committee, which was appointed by Governor Ehringhaus last June, were Harry F. Watkins, of Raleigh, state representative of the National Farm Debt Adjustment commission, and T. Lenoir Gwynne, of Waynesville, field representative of the commission in the western district of North Carolina.

How Plan Works

After explaining that the purpose of the debt adjustment committees, is to help bring farmers and their creditors together in a mutual agreement under which the farmer will not lose his property, Mr. Watkins told the committee that in many cases in which the creditor or creditors refuse to consider a readjustment of the debt the farmer has legal means by which he can stall off foreclosure for six years. This means is provided in the Frazier-Lemke act of 1934. This law, an amendment to the bankruptcy statutes, is designed to permit a farmer who is unable to meet his debts as they mature and is unable to secure a settlement with his creditors, to take certain steps as a means of composing his debts, and to remain in possession of his property for a limited period, under the control of the court, while doing so.

In some instances, Mr. Watkins said, it is possible to work out means of restoring to a farmer land which already has been taken from him by foreclosure.

Since the North Carolina Farm Debt Adjustment commission began functioning last June, Mr. Watkins said, it has assisted in working out debt readjustments in 1,000 cases with an average reduction of the indebtedness of 23 per cent. There are now pending for settlement in this state, he added, approximately 14,000 cases.

The Macon County Adjustment committee is composed of Carl Sledge, chairman; C. F. Moody, Walter Gibson, H. W. Cabe and J. E. Lancaster. In the future the committee plans to meet on the first and third Fridays of each month at the local Emergency Relief office. Farmers desiring to obtain information concerning the debt adjustment plan are advised to see any member of the county committee. Blanks for filing applications for farm debt adjustments can be obtained from the committee or the Emergency Relief office, it was stated.

Mr. Watkins expressed the belief that the committee, with public cooperation, could greatly reduce the number of farm foreclosures in this county. He advised the committee to use persuasion as far as possible in working out adjustments between debtors and creditors; but, when necessary, to advise farmers to take recourse under the Frazier-Lemke act.

(EDITOR'S NOTE—Further details of the Farm Debt Adjustment plan will be presented in next week's issue of The Press-Maconian.)

Meacham Accepts Post in Henderson County

E. H. Meacham, for several years instructor of the vocational agriculture class of the Franklin high school, has accepted a position as assistant farm demonstration agent of Henderson county and has been succeeded in his duties here by Elmer Crawford, whose home is in the Cartoogechaye community.

Cantata

To Be Rendered Easter by Choral Society

A beautiful Easter cantata, "The Resurrection And the Life," by Stoughton, also the Easter portions of Handel's "Messiah," are to be sung in the Methodist church at 7:30 p. m. Easter Sunday, by the Franklin Choral Society with James B. Porter as director and accompanist.

The cantata is divided into three parts. The first part will include, in addition to the choruses, incidental solos by Mrs. Frank Bloxham, soprano, and a quartet by Mrs. Dick Hudson, Mrs. T. J. Johnston, P. B. McCollum and R. C. Dady. After part one the numbers from "The Messiah" will be sung. They will include the alto solo, "He Was Despised," by Mrs. C. C. Herbert, Jr., and the chorus, "Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs." Robert Wallace will sing the tenor solo, "But Thou Didst Not Leave His Soul in Hell," and Miss Margaret McGuire the soprano solo, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," followed by the chorus, "Since By Man Came Death."

Part two of the cantata will then be sung, which will include incidental solos by Miss Beverly Brown, Mrs. T. J. Johnston and P. B. McCollum.

The third part, consisting of choruses and incidental solos by Mrs. Dick Hudson and Hugh Johnston, will be followed by a quartet sung by Misses McGuire and Bulgin and Mr. Kinnebrew and the Rev. C. C. Herbert, Jr.

A professional hymn, "Sing With All the Sons of Morning," from Beethoven's ninth symphony, and the hymn "Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain," as a recessional, will be rendered. Mr. Porter will play "Fugue, Amen" from "The Messiah" as a postlude.

DEATH CLAIMS J. W. SHERRILL

Funeral services for John Wilson Sherrill, 65, who died about 1 o'clock Monday afternoon after an illness of several months, were held at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon at the Franklin Methodist church. The Rev. C. C. Herbert, Jr., pastor, officiated, assisted by the Rev. E. R. Eller, pastor of the First Baptist church.

Mr. Sherrill was a member of the Methodist church.

Pall bearers were Jim Palmer, Charles Penland, J. B. Pendergrass, Roy Cunningham, James Hauser and Quince Hauser.

Mr. Sherrill is survived by his widow, who before marriage was

Miss Lillit Addington; six children, Munday Sherrill, of Washington, D. C.; Jack Sherrill, Jr., B. L. Sherrill, the Misses Eloise, Ada Belle and Fannie Mae Sherrill, all of Franklin; two brothers, W. W. Sherrill, of Morganton, and M. A. Sherrill, of Laurel, Miss.; four sisters, Mrs. T. H. Mashburn, of Blue Ridge, Ga.; Mrs. Guy Hipps, of Canton; Mrs. C. A. Snyder and Mrs. P. W. Kincaid, of Dillsboro.

High School Students To Hold Banquets

Franklin high school juniors, seniors and vocational agriculture students will feast this week.

At 7:30 o'clock Friday night the annual junior-senior banquet, given by the juniors in honor of the graduating class, will be held in Rotary Hall. A program of addresses and fun-making has been prepared.

At the same hour and place Saturday night the vocational agriculture class will hold its annual father-and-son banquet with E. S. Pappy, manager of the White Provision company of Atlanta, Ga., as the principal speaker.

MCDONALDS GET 5 TO 7 YEARS

Plead Guilty To Robbery Of Auto Service Station

John and Walter McDonald, charged with "sticking up" Bill Penland, filling station operator, and robbing him of \$40 in cash last February 9, pleaded guilty to robbery in Macon county superior court Monday afternoon and were sentenced by Judge J. A. Rousseau to five to seven years imprisonment.

The two men, who said they were brothers and came from Charlotte, N. C., came into court without legal counsel and placed themselves on the mercy of the court. At a magistrate's hearing held shortly after the robbery of Penland, who operates Louis Phillips' Shell service station at the intersection of highway 28 and 285, the McDonalds pleaded not guilty. Although they admitted they had been to the service station and obtained gasoline a few hours before their arrest in a stolen automobile on the Highlands-Dillard road near Scaly, they claimed at the preliminary hearing that they had not robbed Penland.

A few weeks ago the McDonalds broke from their cell chamber on the second floor of the county jail, but were thwarted from escaping by a warning to jail attendants given by a negro prisoner.

Miller Sentenced

Ray Miller, who was arrested several weeks ago in connection with an attack on Ulysses Sanders, who was badly cut about the face and neck, was sentenced to 4 months imprisonment for carrying a concealed weapon, a knife, and to 12 months for assault with a deadly weapon. Sanders' throat was dangerously cut, but he recovered after hospital treatment. The attack on him occurred at the rear entrance of the courthouse several months ago, but Miller fled and was not arrested until several weeks ago.

Sentenced for Larceny

Ham McClure, arrested Monday by Deputy Sheriff John Dills, was convicted of larceny and sentenced to 20 months imprisonment. McClure, who was charged with stealing corn, was surprised by Dills when he went to his house in the Hickory Knoll section for breakfast. He had spent the night in hiding. So had John Dills, who secreted himself in the basement of the house late Sunday night after having learned that McClure came in each morning to get something to eat.

The criminal calendar, which consisted mostly of comparatively minor cases, was cleared up Wednesday morning and the court recessed until Thursday morning, when trial of civil cases was begun. Outstanding on the civil docket was the case of John H. Thomas against the Nantahala Power and Light company, the Town of Franklin and the Northwest Carolina Utilities company. Mr. Thomas claims damages of \$12,000 to his 60-acre tract on the headwaters of Lake Emory plus additional damages of \$3,000 to crops in 1932, 1933 and 1934.

Court is scheduled to continue through next week.

G. L. Houk Sworn in As Member of Bar

G. L. Houk, principal of the Franklin school, who passed the state bar examination at Raleigh recently, was sworn in as a member of the bar in Macon county superior court Monday. He took the oath before Judge J. A. Rousseau, of North Wilkesboro, who is presiding over the April term of court.

16 Grand Jurors Ask Investigation Of Relief Agency

MRS. BRYSON'S FUNERAL HELD

Well Known West's Mill Woman Succumbs to Pneumonia

Funeral services for Mrs. T. C. Bryson, 65, were held at the Cowee Baptist church Monday morning at 11 o'clock. The Rev. R. F. Mayberry, pastor, was in charge of the services, assisted by the Rev. W. L. Bradley, of Oak Grove.

Mrs. Bryson died at her home at West's Mill Sunday morning at 3 o'clock after a week's illness with pneumonia. She was a loyal and consecrated member of the Cowee Baptist church, having joined in early life. The large crowd at the funeral and the many beautiful flowers which covered three graves manifested the high esteem in which she was held in her community.

A solo, "Beautiful Isle of Somewhere," was sung by little Marion Moody, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Moody, of Iotla.

The pallbearers were: Purnell Bryson, Carr Rickman, Fred McGaha, Roy Cantrell, Robert Morgan and Joel Dalton.

The deceased, who before marriage, was Miss Eva Isreal, of Buncombe county, is survived by her husband and nine children, Frank Bryson, of Sedro Wooley, Wash.; Lyle Bryson, of Darrington, Wash.; Jesse and Thad C. Bryson, of Bozeman, Mont.; Carr Bryson, of West's Mill; Mrs. Craig Steppe, of Aquone; Mrs. C. H. Scruggs, of Waynesville; Mrs. Ernest Pressley, of Canton, and Miss Edna Bryson, of West's Mill; a stepdaughter, Mrs. Andrew Edwards, of Ellijay, Ga.; 18 grandchildren, a sister, Mrs. Laura Clark, of Asheville, and a brother, R. L. Isreal, of Candler.

IMPROVEMENTS URGED BY JURY

A recommendation that the rest room in the courthouse should be condemned and closed as unsanitary and new underground toilet facilities be built on the public square was included in the report of the grand jury submitted Wednesday to Judge J. A. Rousseau, presiding at the April term of Macon county superior court.

The grand jury also recommended the construction of an enclosure around the trap door between the first and second floors of the jail as a precaution against escapes. Another suggestion included in the report was that the town board have the old Pendergrass building next to the jail demolished and removed. It was called a fire hazard.

The county home and county prison camp were said to be in good condition and the inmates well cared for. Both the jury and the solicitor reported records in the clerk of court's office were efficiently kept.

Results of Exams To Be Announced May 2

G. L. Houk, principal of the Franklin school, announced this week that the list of students who passed the high school entrance examination held on March 23, will be made public on May 2.

Charge Inefficiency in Administration of Funds

A written demand for an investigation of the administration of relief funds in Macon county was submitted to this newspaper Wednesday by members of the grand jury who requested that it be published. The paper bore the signatures of 16 members of the grand jury for the current term of superior court.

The editor was informed that the statement had been submitted to the grand jury for incorporation in its customary report, but that it had been excluded. A. L. McLean, of West's Mill, foreman of the jury, whose signature does not appear on the paper, said it had not been included in the report because the court had advised that it was a matter beyond the grand jury's jurisdiction, as the relief organization is maintained with federal money instead of county funds.

Audit Requested

The statement, as submitted to this newspaper, said that "in our opinion there are entirely too many field workers, also white collared jobs, for the relief funds to be practically administered, and the body of the funds are used in salaries and car mileage, leaving only a very small amount to be applied to such relief as is actually needed." The board of county commissioners was requested to have a detailed audit made of all receipts and disbursements of the "Welfare Organization" with view to ascertaining "how much it costs and the amount of the relief granted." It also requested that the audit be published in the county newspaper.

Several members of the grand jury said they wanted to see the statement published, even though the matter was beyond their jurisdiction.

"I suppose I'll never be drawn for jury duty again," remarked one of the grand jurors, "and it's certain now that I could never get any relief help, if I should need it; but I don't care. I can take care of myself and it's time that something be done about this welfare business."

The Statement

Following is the statement submitted to The Press-Maconian:

THE GRAND JURY OF MACON COUNTY FURTHER REPORT, That whereas it is very evident that dire need exists in many sections of the land and in many parts of Macon County, and, that it is very necessary that all revenues of all sources from our governing bodies should receive the precautionary care, in placing the dollar so as to be invested in a manner as to produce results in relieving the conditions as now exist.

It further appears that there is one organization in Macon County, known as the "Welfare Organization" for the purpose of relieving our people, who happen to be unfortunate as to be in distress, needy and dependant upon sources other than their own for comfortable existence.

It further appears that there is a very near sighted, inefficient and selfish disciplined rules regulating the distribution, of finding the facts regarding the extent of the necessities of those to be relieved, and in our opinion there are entirely too many field workers, also white collared jobs for the relief funds to be practically administered and the body of the funds are used in salaries and car mileage, leaving

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