

# The Franklin Press

## and The Highlands Maconian

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### INVESTIGATING MINERALS HERE

#### C. Soper Establishing Experimental Plant In Franklin

Experimental plant for producing vermiculite, a mineral for a recent industrial development, has been created a considerable and, is being established in Franklin by Ellis Clarke Soper, mining engineer of New York.

Soper has obtained leases on a number of vermiculite deposits in this county and a corps of workmen busy reeling the buildings formerly by H. Arthur Osburn as a mining supply dealer. Offices have been set up in this building, situated on the Tallulah Falls railway near the depot, and a furnace installed for exfoliating, or separating, vermiculite.

**In Experimental State**  
The whole thing is in an experimental stage," Mr. Soper said Monday. "We are interested in various minerals in this section, but we will first study them before we announce any definite plans. We intend to experiment with vermiculite and other minerals on a small scale. Later, we may be able to do something that will be of benefit. Our job now is to find out the quantity and characteristics of the minerals available in this section."

Mr. Soper said he had been interested in the past in the development of several cement and fertilizer plants in the south.

**Uses of Vermiculite**  
It is only in recent years that commercial uses have developed for vermiculite, which derives its name from the Latin word "vermiculari," meaning to breed worms. This mineral was given to it because of its worm-like action of the mineral in heat is applied to it. Chief uses of vermiculite in the United States are found in the southern states, in Montana and in Colorado.

Vermiculite looks like a decomposed mica, being found in schist formations frequently having a bluish golden tinge. In its crude state it is sometimes used in paints and oils to increase their viscosity. It is also used in the paper industry, but a wider field for the mineral is now seen on account of its characteristics which make it well suited when expanded, or exfoliated, for insulation purposes. It is sound proof, fire proof, vermin proof, odorless, tasteless, non-poisonous, very light and is a non-conductor of electricity.

#### Easter Sunrise Service Planned at St. Agnes'

Following its usual custom, St. Agnes' Episcopal church of Franklin will hold a sunrise service on Easter morning. Following a sermon by the rector, the Rev. Frank Oxham, there will be a celebration of the Holy Communion. The service is to start at 6:30 a. m. In announcing it Mr. Bloxson said:

To this service the entire community is invited. Very early in the morning on that first Easter the women gathered at the tomb of our Lord and received the joyful news of the Resurrection. Once again comes the Easter sunrise, flooding the darkest facts of human experience with light and understanding. Easter is the answer to our darkest questionings. Death is only a horizon, and a horizon is only the limit of our sight. In the light of Easter Day we can be brave and patient in our losses and find the incentive to be worthy of those whom we have loved long since and lost sight of. May the Easter sunrise fill our hearts with joy! Will you join in our early devotion to our risen Lord?"

### Tornado Victim

#### Mother of Franklin Girl Dies in Greensboro

Among the 13 persons killed or fatally injured when a tornado struck Greensboro, N. C., last Thursday night was Mrs. Ruby Bain, mother of Miss Annie Laura Bain, a stenographer in the headquarters office here of the Nantahala national forest.

Mrs. Bain was reported to have died of burns after the house in which she was living with a daughter caught on fire following the twister. The daughter, Mrs. J. W. Sparrow, was also trapped in the burning building, but was rescued.

Miss Annie Laurie Bain was notified of her mother's death Thursday night and left immediately for Greensboro.

Mrs. Bain visited her daughter in Franklin last summer, staying at Dixie Hall.

### WILL EXPLAIN FARM PROGRAM

#### County-wide Meeting of Farmers Set for April 18

A county-wide meeting of farmers for the purpose of acquainting them with the new farm program projected by recent federal legislation will be held in the courthouse in Franklin at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, April 18, it was announced this week by S. W. Mendenhall, county agent. L. B. Altman, district agent of the agricultural extension service, will be the principal speaker at the meeting.

The new program is said to be more adapted to all the farms of North Carolina, especially to those which do not have large cash crop acreages, than the old AAA.

In announcing the meeting, Mr. Mendenhall pointed out that the new Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act enacted by congress provides for conservation and improvement of soil resources. The secretary of agriculture is authorized to make payments to producers by (1) their treatment or use of land for soil restoration, conservation or erosion prevention, (2) change in the use of their land, (3) a percentage of their normal production of one or more designated commodities equal to the normal national percentage required for domestic consumption. Payments may be made on any one or any combination of these bases of measurements.

"In view of this," Mr. Mendenhall said, "it is very important that the farmers who wish to see if they can qualify for a benefit payment under this new act to be present at the meeting set for April 18."

#### Franklin Produce Market LATEST QUOTATIONS

(Prices listed below are subject to change without notice.)

Quoted by Farmers Federation, Inc.  
Chickens, heavy breed hens and fryers; lb. .... 15c  
Chickens, light weight; lb. ... 13c  
Eggs, doz. .... 16c  
Irish potatoes, No. 1; bu. ... 65c  
Corn, bu. .... 70c  
Wheat, bu. .... 90c

Quoted by Nantahala Creamery  
Butterfat, lb. .... 27c

### Dies for Lindbergh Baby Murder



After repeated delays in the execution of his sentence, Bruno Richard Hauptmann (right) went to his death in the New Jersey electric chair last Friday night for the kidnap-murder of Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Jr., son of the famous flier and the former Anne Morrow. The baby is shown above in a photo taken shortly before his mysterious disappearance from his Sour Mountain home near Flemington, N. J., the night of March 1, 1932. Hauptmann steadfastly refused to admit his guilt until the very last. Gov. Hoffman of New Jersey is still probing possibilities that someone else was involved.



### Macon Responds to Call For Aid at Gainesville

#### \$350 Relief Fund Raised By Local Red Cross Chapter

P. 1—\$350 Relief  
Responding in a spirit like that manifested in Red Cross drives of war days, the people of Macon county this week were quick to answer appeals for aid for the tornado victims of Gainesville, Ga.

Wednesday afternoon a fund of \$350 had been raised by the Macon county chapter and sent to national Red Cross headquarters in Washington. The contribution was earmarked for use at Gainesville.

The Rev. J. A. Flanagan, county Red Cross chairman, telegraphed the chairman of the Gainesville Red Cross chapter:

"Macon county chapter Red Cross and people of Franklin express to you and your people deepest sympathy. We offer our services and help. Advise as to any special aid we might render. Contributions of \$350 are being forwarded national Red Cross for your use."

Mr. Flanagan said he hoped and expected many other contributions would be made in the next few days. Any persons desiring to make donations to the relief fund are asked to give them to officers of the Red Cross or to leave them at the Bank of Franklin, Perry's Drug Store or The Franklin Press.

#### Jack Sanders Buys Home On Harrison Avenue

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Sanders have bought the S. H. Lyle house on Harrison avenue and plan to move into it within a few days. Mr. Lyle and his family moved into the house next door.

#### Goodness

As the presence of salt is not so noticeable as its absence, so the good are most appreciated when they are gone.

### GAINESVILLE'S DEATH TOLL 185

#### Relief Workers from Here Tell of Scenes of Horror

Reports Wednesday of the situation at Gainesville, Ga., struck Monday by a devastating tornado, listed the known dead at 185, the injured at 1,200 and property damage at \$7,000,000.

A number of Franklin people have relatives in Gainesville; but, as far as this newspaper was able to learn, none of them was killed or injured.

Franklin was one of the first towns in this section to send aid to the stricken "capital of North Georgia," 90 miles south of here. Immediately on hearing of the catastrophe Gilmer A. Jones, commander of the Macon county post of the American Legion, organized a relief party of legionnaires and Boy Scouts. All day and late into the night they worked with others searching for bodies of the dead and carrying the injured to improvised hospitals.

#### 2,500 Homeless

It was a scene of unimaginable horror, those who went to Gainesville Monday reported. The tornado struck the town unawares, cutting a wide swath of destruction through the central part, wiping out the business district surrounding the square and wrecking hundreds of homes. It was estimated that 2,500 to 3,000 persons were left homeless. They were cared for in the homes that were still left standing and in improvised relief camps.

#### Fires Increase Horror

Adding to the terrible chaos were numerous fires which broke out after the tornado had passed on. The greatest damage was reported at the factory of the Cooper Manufacturing company, which burst into blaze after the winds had reduced it to a shambles. An official of the company said 125 employees, most of them girls and women, reported for duty Monday morning. Only three were known to have escaped. Bodies of 45, most of them charred beyond recognition, were taken from the building Monday and Tuesday.

Pitiful, heart-rending stories of  
(Continued on Page Eight)

### On Rampage

#### Little Tennessee Reaches 20-Year Flood Peak

Torrential rains Sunday night climaxed a long wet spell and sent the Little Tennessee river to its highest flood level in 20 years. Considerable damage was reported to bottom land fields situated above the dam at Franklin, but damage was said to be slight to lands below the dam. The heavy rains, however, caused a number of sloping fields to wash and left farmers anxious lest it delay too long their spring planting.

The river at Franklin crept out of its banks Sunday and on Monday it had covered hundreds of acres of land, water backing up to the Tallulah Falls railway depot and covering the base of the Indian mound. It flooded the lumber mill of the Franklin Hardware company and lapped at the floor boards of the home of Fred Cabe. It also flooded T. W. Angel's barn.

The peak was reached late Monday and on Tuesday the water subsided rapidly.

In 1916, some years before the erection of the Franklin dam, the river was said to have risen about two feet higher than on Monday; but the worst flood in the memory of Franklin residents was in 1898, when it was said to have covered fully a third of the Indian mound.

#### Licenses Lost by 2,300 Auto Drivers

RALEIGH, April 8.—A total of 2,300 automobile drivers' licenses have been revoked since the law went into effect, Arthur W. Fulk, director of the Division of Highway Safety, has announced.

Of this number 2,290 were first offenders, while ten others have had their licenses revoked for a second time. Practically all of the revocations were because of driving while intoxicated, or for reckless driving, the latter class numbering 750.

Fulk said that 544 applications for licenses had been refused because of incompetence of the applicants.