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FINNISH RELIEF DRIVE STARTED

Macon County Joins In National Campaign For Funds

Macon county citizens are joining in the nation wide campaign to raise funds for the relief of the distressed civilian population of Finland.

The need for food, medical supplies and clothing is reported as being very great among these people who are subjected to daily bombing by Russian planes, and whose entire man power is mobilized to repel an unjustifiable invasion.

A. R. Higdon and Boise Hall started the movement in Franklin and prepared an appeal which is bringing a generous response.

Former President Herbert Hoover announced in New York that Finnish Relief headquarters Saturday sent its sixth \$100,000 contribution to Finland for civilian aid.

He said reports showed that more than 500,000 Finns had been moved from danger zones in large cities to the safety of rural areas, but that 400,000 remained to be cared for.

In Raleigh, former Governor J. C. B. Ehringhaus, chairman of the Finnish Relief fund in North Carolina, said that Tar Heels would be asked to contribute \$50,000 to \$75,000 to aid the Finns.

Main headquarters for the drive will be established in Raleigh, he said, and organizations will be set up in each of the state's 100 counties. The campaign will start as soon as offices are found for the state work.

Mr. Ehringhaus received a telegram from Mr. Hoover, chairman of the national organization, thanking the Raleigh lawyer for accepting the appointment as head of the state drive.

No regular organization has as yet been set up in Macon county, but contributions will be received and forwarded by The Franklin Press, and they may also be given to any member of the Macon county post of the American Legion who will see that they reach the officials of the organization and are sent in at once. A subscription list has been posted on the bulletin board at The Press office.

The following have subscribed to the fund as reported up to Wednesday:

A. R. Higdon, \$1.00; Boise Hall, \$1.00; O. C. Bryant, \$1.00; J. R. Morrison, 50 cents; Charles Bradley, \$5.00; E. K. Cunningham & Co., \$1.00; B. T. Harrison, \$1.00; C. T. Bryson, \$1.00; Macon County Supply Co., \$1.00; Paul West, \$1.00; Jack Sanders, \$1.00; J. E. Perry, \$1.00; A. B. Slagle, \$5.00; Grover Jamison, \$1.00; J. S. Conley, \$1.00; Lee Poindexter, \$1.00; Dr. F. T. Smith, \$1.00; F. M. Arnold, \$1.00; Roy F. Cunningham, 50 cents; a Friend, 50 cents; Roy Carpenter, \$1.00.

Thomas T. Bryant, 87 Passes At Oakdale

Thomas T. Bryant, 87, well known Macon county farmer, died at his home at Oakdale on Wednesday, January 10, following a lingering illness of more than a year. He was born near Knoxville, Tenn., in 1852 and moved to Macon county when a young man. He was a member of the Oakdale Baptist church.

Due to the inclemency of the weather and the illness of Mrs. Bryant, no funeral services were held, but a memorial service is to be held in the near future. The burial occurred Friday afternoon in the Tippett cemetery in the Oakdale community about eight miles from Franklin.

Surviving are the widow, the former Miss Cordelia Marr, of Swain county, and six children, three daughters, Mrs. Ella Jones and Mrs. Bertha Cook, of Franklin Route 3, and Mrs. Grady Wilkes, of Iotia; three sons, Robert Bryant, of Houston, Texas; Mark Bryant, of Franklin Route 3, and Wiley Bryant, of Birmingham, Ala. Several grandchildren also survive.

Income Tax Adviser To Be In Franklin Feb. 15

The Press has received a request from the collector of internal revenue for North Carolina that announcement be made to payers of income taxes in Macon county that a representative of the internal revenue service will be at the postoffice building in Franklin on Thursday, February 15, from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m., for the purpose of advising and assisting in the filling out of tax returns.

John Wasilik Promoted To Eagle Scout At Court Of Honor

At the recent court of honor of the Smoky Mountains district of the Daniel Boone council, Boy Scouts of America, the highest award in Scouting, that of Eagle Scout, was conferred on John Wasilik of the Franklin Troop.



JOHN WASILIK

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Wasilik, Jr., of Franklin. The presentation was made by the Rev. Frank Bloxham.

John is 14 years old and has gained this distinction at a very early age for it usually takes much longer for a boy to do all the work required for this rank. He has worked hard ever since he joined the Troop and is one of the outstanding members. We are justly proud of such boys.

John is the eighth member of the Franklin Troop to gain Eagle rank within the past few years. We believe that there is no other community in Western North Carolina outside of Asheville that has this record and we know that no other Troop in the Smoky Mountains district can beat it.

Franklin should be pleased with its boys and their achievements and give every encouragement to the work being done by visiting sometimes the Troop in meeting on Friday nights.

BOOKMOBILE TO ARRIVE MONDAY

Schedule Announced For Traveling Library In County

As announced last week, the bookmobile will be in Macon county next week, starting on Monday, January 22, and will remain through January 25. Deliveries of books will be made thereafter every 30 days.

This project is made possible through the cooperation of various civic organizations in Franklin which have agreed to bear the expense of gas and oil required to deliver the books to the different communities. The books will be drawn from the Franklin library, and will be loaned free of charge to all who wish to read them.

Following is the schedule for the four days:

- Monday, January 22**
Cullasaja postoffice, 9:30; Higdonville school, 10:15; Salem school, 11:15; Gneiss postoffice, 11:45; Pine Grove school, 12:00; Highlands school, 12:30; Scaly school, 2:00; Mulberry school, 2:30; Otto school, 3:00; Otto postoffice, 3:15; Union school, 3:30; Rev. Swain's home, 4:00.
- Tuesday, January 23**
Burningtown school, 10:00; Iotia school, 11:00; Ray's store, 1:00; T. M. Rickman's store, 1:30; Cowee school, 2:00; Oak Grove school, 2:45; Etna postoffice, 3:30.
- Wednesday, January 24**
Oak Ridge school, 10:00; Claude Beeco's home, 11:00; Watauga school, 12:00; Jack Talley's home, 1:30; Holly Springs school, 2:30.
- Thursday, January 25**
Slagle school, 10:00; Hopkins' store, 10:30; Aquone school, 12:30; Hall's store, 1:30; Kyle school, 2:30; Otter Creek school, 3:00.

L. LEE GRAVELY ENTERS RACE FOR GOVERNOR

L. Lee Gravelly, of Rocky Mount, has announced his candidacy for governor and pledged himself to a 12-point program which includes planks opposing highway fund diversion and the sales tax. Gravelly is the fourth Democrat to enter the gubernatorial race.

Review Of War Situation In Europe For Past Week

Reports from Finland indicate that fighting has slackened somewhat during the past week. The Russians have undertaken no great land offensive and, while bombing attacks continue, they show less vigor than heretofore.

Finnish ski troops are said to have forced the Russian army on the central front from its December position, which was nearly 20 miles within Finland, to a line five to 10 miles inside Russia.

Associated Press dispatches this (Thursday) morning stated that a general Russian retreat was in progress from the Salla sector of Finland, involving 40,000 troops. The correspondent said the Russians had apparently given up hopes of holding that front on account of the extreme cold weather which prevails there. Most of the Finnish troops in that sector are Laplanders who are accustomed to the sub zero temperature.

The winter, which is one of the coldest on record in northern Europe, is aiding the Finnish forces in their struggle, but military men agree that unless they receive large reinforcements by the time spring weather comes, they will be wiped out by sheer weight of numbers when the Red masses are thrown against them.

CHAMBERLAIN DARES FOES TO SEEK HIS OVERTHROW

Premier Chamberlain in a speech to the British house of commons refused to explain the ousting of War Secretary Hore-Belisha, and dared his foes to seek his overthrow.

The premier in his speech merely hinted that the war secretary was removed because he was "too energetic," referring possibly to Hore-Belisha's stream-lining of the British army and disregarding old traditions worshipped by the army generals.

Chamberlain's opponents refused to take advantage of the situation to launch an attack upon the government and disappointed those who expected the "lid to be ripped off."

BELGIUM AND HOLLAND MOBILIZE TROOPS

Belgium and Holland have mobilized all their armed forces and have all border fortifications fully manned on account of heavy concentrations of German troops at nearby points. Some observers think the Germans are preparing to strike through Holland in a drive for air bases from which operations can be directed against England. Other experts believe that the Germans are merely trying to intimidate the two nations and force them into closer relations with the Nazi government in order to forestall invasion. All

correspondents, however, seem to agree that the next move is up to Hitler, and that he must throw all his forces into a desperate drive for a quick victory in the spring or face the collapse of his government.

GERMANS SINK THREE BRITISH SUBMARINES

The British admiralty acknowledged Tuesday the loss of three submarines assigned to one of the royal navy's most dangerous jobs—patrol of German North sea outlets to keep the Nazi fleet bottled up.

The submarines—Undine, Seahorse and Starfish, \$3,000,000 worth of undersea craft carrying about 110 men—failed to return to their bases and are thought to have been sunk by depth charges. The number of casualties was unknown.

These sinkings raised British naval losses to 20 ships aggregating 79,128 tons, and the loss of 1,875 men, killed or captured.

BRITAIN MASSES WORKERS TO COMBAT SABOTAGE

More than 600,000 railroad workers throughout Britain were mobilized in an anti-spy army after discovery of a vast sabotage plot, allegedly organized by German secret agents, to cripple the nation's main railroad lines.

The sabotage plot also was said to have been aimed at communications, public works and bridges. Authorities everywhere were said to have been told to remain on the alert for possible acts of sabotage as result of "definite information" received by the government of the existence of such a plot.

Singing At Snow Hill Next Sunday

A singing convention will be held at the Snow Hill Methodist church on Sunday afternoon, January 21, it has been announced by R. D. West.

Mr. West stated that a number of good singers from adjoining counties had been invited and are expected to be present and take part in the singing. All classes, quartets, duets and others interested in the promotion of better singing, are invited to attend.

More Books Donated To Camp Branch School

Miss Mary H. Elmore, principal of Camp Branch school, reports that Mrs. E. S. Whitten, of Naban, Mass., has sent a collection of 75 library books to be added to the school library.

Credit is also given to Mrs. Whitten for a box of Christmas folders sent to the school for the Christmas program.

As The World Turns

A Brief Survey of Current Events In State, Nation and Abroad.

NORTH CAROLINA GETS \$104,539 FOR FOREST ROADS

The department of agriculture has announced the allotment of \$104,539 for forest highway work in North Carolina for the fiscal year beginning July 1. Most of the money will be spent in the western part of the state.

CONGRESSMAN DOUGHTON SAYS HE WILL RETIRE

Congressman Robert L. Doughton announced Tuesday that he would retire from congress at the close of his present term. As chairman of the ways and means committee, Mr. Doughton has played a major part in the passage of history-making legislation, especially during the past eight years. He is 75 years of age and has been a member of the house for 30 years.

W. ROY FRANCIS BECOMES ACTING U. S. ATTORNEY

W. Roy Francis, of Waynesville, has been named acting U. S. attorney for the western district of North Carolina by Judge E. Yates Webb, presiding judge of the district. He fills the vacancy caused by the death of Marcus Erwin, under whom he served for six years as first assistant district attorney. It is thought that the permanent appointment will go to Lamar Caudle, of Wadesboro.

STARK DECLARES U. S. MUST HAVE STRONGER NAVY

The United States must plan to build a navy strong enough to

meet any combination of enemies which might strike at this hemisphere if Great Britain and France are defeated in the European war, Admiral Harold R. Stark told the house naval affairs committee last Thursday.

MINE BLAST COST LIVES OF 91 MEN

Officials of the Pond Creek Pochontas Coal company have announced that 91 miners were killed in the explosion that shattered the Bartley No. 1 mine at Bartley, W. Va., on January 10. All bodies have been recovered.

HULL SAYS TRADE PACTS INSURE AGAINST WAR

Secretary of State Cordell Hull in defending the administration's reciprocal trade treaty program, told the house ways and means committee Thursday that abandonment of the program would return this country to its postwar role of leading "the procession of destructive protectionism," and further stated that the trade treaties are bolstering to domestic economy and will be a force for world peace.

BRITAIN CLAIMS RIGHT TO ACT IN NEUTRAL BELT

Great Britain Tuesday replied to the protest of the 21 American republics against violation of their "neutrality belt" with the statement that Britain "must reserve full belligerent rights" in these waters because the Pan-American scheme cannot be effectively enforced.

Baptist Ministers To Meet Next Week In Sylva

The Baptist ministers of four associations will hold a three-day conference in Sylva on next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, January 22, 23 and 24. The associations to be represented are Macon County, Tennessee River, Haywood and Tuckaseeige.

Following is the program:

Monday
2 p. m.—Devotions, W. N. Cook.
2:15 p. m.—Conference period on pastoral problems, R. P. McCracken.
7:30 p. m.—Worship.
7:40 p. m.—The pastor enlisting his men, McKinley Edwards.
8 p. m.—Sermon, T. F. Deitz.

Tuesday
9:45 a. m.—Devotions, R. W. Williams.
10 a. m.—Bible study period, H. K. Masteller.
10:45 a. m.—Sermon, W. M. Gerold.
11:30 a. m.—General discussion, J. C. Pipes.
12:15 a. m.—Quiet worship, Fred Forester.

Wednesday
12:30 p. m.—Lunch.
2 p. m.—Devotions, E. H. Dorsey.
2:15 p. m.—Conference period on pastoral problems, J. G. Benfield.
7:30 p. m.—Worship.
7:40 p. m.—A layman's view of the ministry, J. T. Gribble.
8 p. m.—Sermon, J. S. Hopkins.

Thursday
9:45 a. m.—Devotions, B. F. Shope.
10 a. m.—Bible study period, H. K. Masteller.
10:45 a. m.—Sermon, C. F. Rogers.
11:30 a. m.—General discussion, J. C. Pipes.
12:15 a. m.—Quiet worship, R. F. Mayberry.
12:30 p. m.—Lunch.

It is announced that room, breakfast and lunch will be provided free of charge for the attending ministers.

MACON TO JOIN IN POLIO DRIVE

Lester Arnold Appointed Chairman For 1940 Campaign

Macon county will join this year as heretofore in the nation wide drive for funds to fight infantile paralysis. These drives are always put on in connection with the celebration of President Roosevelt's birthday, which comes on January 30.

Lester L. Arnold has been appointed chairman for Macon county, and has named Miss Lassie Kelly as chairman for the Franklin district and Jack Potts for Highlands.

The county chairman was named by Arthur Carpenter, Knoxville, Tenn., regional director of the committee for the celebration of the President's birthday.

"This is part of a national campaign carried on annually to raise money for combatting this dread disease which attacks without warning, usually upon children," the chairman said. "It will reach its height during January, and will conclude with the celebration on January 30, 1940, of the birthday of President Roosevelt, who is a former victim of the disease."

Mr. Arnold stated that dances and parties were being planned for Franklin and Highlands and that buttons would be sold as was done last year. He also said that contribution boxes would be placed in various business houses in the county.

Plans for the various entertainments are incomplete and dates and places will be announced later.

Funeral Held For Little Mary Louise Rogers

Funeral services for Mary Louise, the two-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George W. Rogers, were held at the Cashiers Baptist church on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. The Rev. Clyde S. McCall was in charge of the services.

Little Mary Louise died at the home of her parents on Thursday.

New Theatre To Open Monday, January 29

Manager Gailey of the Macon Theatre announced Wednesday that the beautiful new playhouse will be opened on Monday, January 29. Full details as to the opening and much information concerning the theatre will appear in The Press next week.

DEATH CLAIMS GEO. N. ASHEAR

Funeral Held At Baptist Church Thursday Afternoon

George N. Ashear, 47, died at 2:30 o'clock Tuesday morning in a hotel at Lexington, N. C., where he had stopped for the night on his way to Duke hospital at Durham. Death was due to heart trouble following an illness which had lasted three months.

Mr. Ashear and his brothers, Joseph and Mitchell, left Franklin Monday morning for Durham, hoping that he might be benefited by treatment at Duke hospital, and they stopped for the night at a hotel in Lexington.

Mr. Ashear came to the United States from Syria in June, 1913. He was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Nassar Ashear, of Franklin.

After his arrival in the United States, Mr. Ashear worked with his brother, Joseph, in the dry goods store in Franklin until 1925 when he moved to Los Angeles, Calif., where he owned and operated a shoe store until October, 1939, when he was forced to retire on account of ill health. His brother, Joseph, became worried about his condition and went out to California and brought the sick man back to Franklin on December 15 in the hope that something might be done to restore him to health.

During his residence in Franklin George Ashear made many friends. He was quiet, unassuming and courteous, and earned the good will of all the people with whom he came in contact.

Funeral services were held this (Thursday) afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Franklin Baptist church.

The pastor, the Rev. C. F. Rogers, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Father Paul Risk, of Atlanta. Burial was in Franklin cemetery.

Active pallbearers: Charles M. Rogers, Henry W. Cabe, E. T. Calloway, L. B. Phillips, Lyman Higdon, and Grover Jamison, Jr.

Flower bearers: Mrs. Joe Palmer, Mrs. Manson Styles, Mrs. W. T. Moore, Mrs. George Brown, and Mrs. Herman Dean.

Surviving are three sisters, Mrs. Sam Garra and Miss Martha Ashear, of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Mrs. Mary Malcoof, of Dubois, Pa.; three brothers, Joseph and Mitchell, of Franklin, and Elias, of Cairo, Egypt.

A large number of relatives and friends from Pittsburgh, Pa., Atlanta, Ga., and other places attended the funeral, and there were many beautiful floral offerings.

Fires Creek First In Size Of Fish

Fires creek is "tops" in size of fish caught according to the annual fish report just received in the Nantahala forest office from C. N. Mease, refuge supervisor of the state of North Carolina. The average length of fish was larger than for any other cooperative refuge in the entire state of North Carolina. The three open periods last year brought forth an average length of fish caught of 9.37 inches and in all periods the average exceeded 9 inches.

Wayah refuge had the highest catch per fisherman of the three cooperative game areas on the Nantahala national forest. It averaged slightly less than eight with one out of every five fishermen getting the bag limit of 10. Standing Indian refuge had a catch average of 4 1/2 while Fires Creek had a catch average of slightly less than six. The low catch on Fires Creek is undoubtedly due to ambitious fishermen trying to get the "big fellows."

Fires Creek showed a catch of 900 rainbow trout and 25 brook trout for the season. The catch on Nantahala river was about two-thirds rainbow and one-third brook trout. Wayah refuge catch indicated practically all brook trout.

The three cooperative game areas on the Nantahala national forest will again be opened this year on specified dates which will soon be announced. Forty thousand trout are again being stocked this year, 10,000 being planted for the first time in Santeetlah creek within the newly created Santeetlah game refuge in Graham county.

CARD OF THANKS

We want to thank our many friends and neighbors for the kindness and sympathy shown to us during the recent death of our beloved wife and mother, Mrs. R. S. Hall. Also for the beautiful floral offering.

R. S. HALL and F. P. MEADOWS