

1940 Census

Population of
Macon County

15,880

The Franklin Press

and The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE LIBERAL INDEPENDENT

1940 Census

Population of
Franklin

1,250

VOL. LVI, NO. 12

FRANKLIN, N. C. THURSDAY, MARCH 20, 1941

\$1.50 PER YEAR

LOCAL DEFENSE MAKING PLANS

Gus Leach Elected Ch'm To Increase Food Production

Steps were taken to form a permanent county council for National Defense at a meeting held Wednesday night in the Farm Security office in the Leach building.

Gus Leach, chairman of county commissioners, was elected to serve as chairman and the following executive committee was appointed by him: Sam Mendenhall, Mrs. Florence Sherrill, E. J. Whitmire, B. W. Justice, Miss Ethel Hurst. The purpose of this committee is to assist the chairman in putting into operation an active program to forward the demands for national defense in Macon county. The office of chairman was defined as coordinator of existing agencies and civic groups whose cooperation would be sought.

Sam Mendenhall, county farm agent, presided at the meeting. In a brief opening address he referred to this meeting as being a follow-up of the general meeting held recently in the court house, and further impressed the need for raising and conserving more food by all the people in the county, as a mark of good citizenship and patriotism. He referred to the large percentage of drafted men who have been rejected on account of physical defects. He called on the group to give leadership in creating a desire on the part of their clients to produce all food needed for home consumption, reminding them that the first need in national defense is a well-fed people.

A general discussion was held on practical ways to encourage the planting of gardens and methods for neighborhood and cooperative canning to preserve food surpluses of farm and home.

The meeting was attended by leaders and officials of county and government groups, as follows: Gus Leach, B. W. Justice, Carl Slagle, Albert L. Ramsey, Sam Mendenhall, Harley Stewart, Henry Cobe, E. J. Whitmire, W. H. Finley, T. W. Fagg, Miss Mary E. Doyle, Mrs. John Hamer, S. R. Griffin, Jr., Mrs. Eloise Franks, Mrs. Margaret Ordway, Mrs. Florence Sherrill, P. L. Threlkeld, Fred Sloan, Miss Ethel Hurst.

Enlisting cooperation of other groups and formulating plans for action were immediate objectives agreed upon, and the meeting adjourned to meet on call of the chairman.

Pre-School Clinics Announced By Dr. Haller

At this time of the year the Macon County Health Department is preparing to hold pre-school and infant clinics in communities that are interested in this service.

A physical examination will be given to all children that are planning to enter school next fall and the diphtheria inoculation will be available for babies and young children from six months to six years of age.

Community leaders and teachers desiring to hold these clinics are requested to notify the health department at once.

DR. E. N. HALLER,
Health Physician for Macon County

Zone Missionary Meeting At Methodist Church

The Waynesville District missionary institute will meet at the Franklin Methodist church on Sunday afternoon, March 23, from 2:30 to 4:30 o'clock. This meeting includes the Franklin-Sylva zones, comprising the churches of Macon, Swain and Jackson counties.

The Rev. A. P. Ratledge, of the Sylva zone, will preside. Mr. Ratledge was formerly pastor of the Franklin church. Dr. J. L. Stokes II will represent the Franklin zone.

The Rev. J. C. Swain will conduct the opening worship, after which Mrs. F. E. Branson will present the Women's Work. Presentation of children's work will be made by Mrs. W. L. Hutchins; Golden Cross, Rev. J. C. Gentry; Benevolent Dollar by Rev. P. L. Green; District Missionary Advances by Rev. W. L. Hutchins; Missionary Cultivation, Rev. J. L. Stokes II; Evangelism, Rev. J. G. Huggin, Jr.

Rev. W. L. Hutchins of Waynesville district superintendent, who will attend this institute, will also preach at the morning service of the Franklin church. Rev. W. R. Kelly, district missionary secretary, will also attend the meeting. The choral society will furnish music.

New Volunteers

And Changes In Macon's March 26 Quota

The local draft board announces two volunteers received during the past week, Sam William Frady of Cullasaja who is an under-age volunteer, and Roy Lee Lewis of Rainbow Springs.

Several changes in the list of volunteers that will leave March 26 for Fort Bragg have been made. The following is the revised list: Thomas Louis Crunkleton, ton, Highlands; Gernell Lee Woods, Route 2, Franklin; William Conley, Route 2, Franklin; Kenneth Tillman Cruse, Star Route, Prentiss; George Bobby Waldrup, Prentiss; Kenneth Ansel Dowdle, Route 1, Franklin; Carl Greene, Highlands; Joseph Percy Shope, Otto; Woodrow Thomas Holland, Cullasaja; Patrick Theodore Rogers, Highlands; Sam William Frady, Cullasaja.

E. W. Long, chairman of the Macon county board, states that additional volunteers will be welcomed.

C. Lewis Saunders Killed In Accident

The body of C. Lewis Saunders, 24, who was killed last Saturday night in an automobile accident in St. Joseph, Mo., arrived here last Tuesday evening.

Mr. Saunders was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Saunders of the Bethel community. For the past year he had been employed in Iowa and Missouri as driller, powder man and assistant quarry foreman by the Concrete Materials and Construction company of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Bethel Methodist church. The Rev. Philip L. Green, pastor, officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

The pallbearers were Boice Hall, George Scott, Paul Love, Herman Talley, Lester Arnold and Leonard Horne.

Surviving are his parents, two sisters, Mrs. Nat Phillips and Miss Edna Saunders, of Franklin; and three brothers, Robert Saunders, of Franklin and Wilmington, and Frank and Fred Saunders, of Franklin.

DANGER FROM FOREST FIRES

State Forester Urges Care During Spring

Billows of smoke curling through the air are an indication to some folks that spring is approaching—that brush and leaves are being burned. But to foresters, the smoke is a signal that the worst forest fire period of the year has arrived.

W. J. Barker, assistant extension forester of N. C. State college, says that more disastrous forest fires occur in late March and April than in any other months. He suggests that the frequent newspaper stories telling of vast damage from forest fires be a warning to farmers and the general public to be careful.

"Farmers who burn off hedge rows and ditch banks not only endanger nearby woodlands," Barker said, "but they also destroy wildlife which are dependent upon the brush for cover during the periods of sparse vegetation."

The forester said that a recent five-year period found an average of 4,077 fires in North Carolina annually destroying 436,112 acres of timberland, valued at \$778,322. The burning of so-called debris ranked third as a cause of these forest fires.

Careless smokers caused 29.2 per cent of the fires, incendiarism caused 23.9 per cent, debris burners 19.8 per cent, campers 10.5 per cent, railroads 2.6 per cent, lumbering 2.3 per cent, unknown 1.5 per cent, lightning 9.9 per cent, and miscellaneous 9.3 per cent.

Barker urged that forest fire wardens be notified immediately when a brush fire gets out of control. He also warned against unrestricted back-firing to control conflagrations.

"This practice, when not properly supervised, frequently adds to the toll of the fire," the extension specialist declared.

I have had more trouble with myself than with any other man I have ever met.—Dwight L. Moody.

Baptist S. S. Convention Sunday, March 23

The Macon County Baptist Sunday School convention will meet on Sunday afternoon, March 23, at 2:30 o'clock at the Rose Creek Baptist church, it has been announced by Paul Swafford, president of the convention.

The program will open with a hymn by the congregation, followed by devotions led by Paul Carpenter, of Franklin. Following the reports given by the various Sunday schools in the county, the Rev. Robert W. Williams, pastor of the Oak Grove Baptist church, will give a talk on "Daily Vacation Bible Schools."

The principal message will be given by the Rev. C. O. Brookshire of this county.

All churches in the county are urged to send a large representation.

Fatal Accident To Mrs. W. A. Poindexter

News has been received by Lee Tallent of Franklin Route 3, of the death of his sister, Mrs. William A. Poindexter, who died from head injuries received in an automobile accident in Mount Vernon, Wash., recently.

The deceased was fatally injured when a tire blew out on the car in which was traveling, throwing her in the path of another car. She had resided in Mount Vernon for the past 25 years.

Mrs. Poindexter, the former Miss Kitty Tallent and a native of Macon county, was the daughter of the late Logan and Amanda Tallent, of the Iotla community. She was married to William A. Poindexter, also a native of this county.

Funeral services were held at the First Methodist church in Mount Vernon, with the Rev. Harry Gardner, pastor, officiating. Burial was in the Mount Vernon cemetery.

Surviving are her husband, one son, Glen, of Seattle, Wash., and one daughter, Miss Edna Poindexter, of Mount Vernon, Wash., and two grandchildren. Also three brothers, Lee, Jess and Ell Tallent, all of Franklin Route 3; two sisters, Mrs. Clifford Hood, of Charleston, S. C., and Miss Callie Tallent, of Sylva.

BLIZZARD IN NORTHWEST

Death toll from high winds and bitter cold in North Dakota and Minnesota over the week-end mounted to 80. The blizzard spread over a wide area reaching the East and South.

As The World Turns

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

War Week

LONDON
Germans have intensified bombing of British cities, blasting London last night in the heaviest raid of the year, causing uncounted deaths in the city's most populous areas. More than 25,000 have been killed by German bombs since September. R. A. F. has made devastating raids on German cities. Churchill warned that a Nazi submarine was in U. S. waters.

ATHENS, GREECE
Heavy casualties are reported in the Albanian battle front as Italian ranks were mowed down in a futile seven-day offensive in the Tepelini area.

BELGRADE, YUGO-SLAVIA
Yugo-slavia's position remains uncertain although Germany announces that this country will sign up with the axis on March 20. The nation is reported massing an army of 1,250,000 along the Bulgarian border.

Greek sources say that 500,000 troops will be thrown in the Battle of the Balkans as Germany draws up a striking force of 600,000 to 700,000 on the Bulgarian-Rumanian border, with a reported 100,000 of a planned 300,000 British army in Greece, with British supplies and American-made bombers on the ground.

CAIRO, EGYPT
Positions around Cheren, strongest defensive area in Eritrea, have fallen to the British, defended by 35,000 Italians, who lost heavily in counter-attack.

The encircling of Addis Ababa appears certain as the British push to new objectives in Eritrea and Ethiopia with an army of many races assembled on the various battle fronts.

BERLIN
Adolph Hitler declared in a speech last Sunday following President's radio talk, that "No power

Mrs. John Wasilik

Elected President Of PTA Of Franklin School

Mrs. John Wasilik Jr., was elected president of the Franklin Parent-Teachers Association at the meeting Monday afternoon, to succeed Mrs. Fred Slagle whose two-year term is completed. Mrs. Richard S. Jones was elected to succeed Mrs. Alfred Higdon whose term also expired this year. Mrs. Thad D. Bryson was re-elected secretary and Mrs. Gus Leach treasurer. Mrs. Houghton Williams was elected to succeed Mrs. L. H. Page as historian.

The program was devoted to a round table discussion led by Mrs. Lola P. Barrington on "The Problems of the Elementary Teachers."

The urgent need for necessary equipment for the Franklin school elementary grades was noted; poor lighting of the lower grade rooms and the health problem was also discussed. The teachers appealed to parents to keep their children home when they are not well, as there have been an unusual number of pupils who have become sick in school this winter, and there is no room or other facility at the school to take care of emergency cases of illness that are constantly occurring. Mrs. Ramsey reported that the tables around which the 4th grade children work in her room were in bad condition and needed repairing.

A letter was read from Dr. E. N. Haller, county health officer, in regard to the pre-school clinics. The following committee was appointed to cooperate with Miss Alma Kee, county health nurse, in bringing to the clinics all children who will enter school for the first time next fall: W. H. Finley, Mrs. Elizabeth Guffey and Miss Amy Henderson.

Miss Helen Moore entertained the meeting with one of her lovely solos accompanied by Miss Dorothy Plonk. Rev. Mr. Davis of the Baptist circuit, led the devotions.

Singing Convention At Pine Grove Church

The Southern Division of the Macon county singing convention will meet at Pine Grove Baptist church Sunday, March 23, at 1:30 p. m.

Everybody interested in singing is invited to come and be with us.

O. C. Corbin, President

Dr. Rogers

Returns From Assembly; Bills Passed

Dr. W. A. Rogers, Macon county's representative in the General Assembly, returned home Sunday after adjournment Saturday night at 10 o'clock.

The 1941 Assembly had a shorter-than-usual session of 58 legislative days, with few records set as far as unusual legislation and quantity of bills was concerned, although the appropriations bill calls for the largest expenditures in the state's history.

Bills which Dr. Rogers sponsored and were enacted into law are as follows:

A statewide measure, H.B.315, which amended the law requiring vaccinations of dogs for rabies which required that the vaccine be kept in a safe place by the local health department. This law requires that all dogs be vaccinated once a year, and that a veterinarian be appointed to do the work by the district health officer, the local health board and the county commissioners.

H.B. 672 was passed giving authority to the chairman of the highway commission to equalize and increase pay of state highway employees, especially guards and truck men.

H.B. 25, abolishing tax penalties in Macon county.

H.B. 727, authorizing the clerk of superior court of Macon county to add 20 cents to all civil and criminal court costs as a fee for making statistical reports to the state department of justice. The clerk is to retain the fee.

H.B. 131 to appropriate \$30,000 for mineral research in several western counties was introduced jointly with the representatives of those counties and passed by the House, but was reported unfavorably by the Senate committee.

Among important measures passed during the last days of the Assembly were the 12th grade law, the law reapportioning representatives among the counties, the law calling for submission of a constitutional amendment on reorganization of the state board of education, and the bill restricting the sale of fortified wines. The liquor referendum bill met an unfavorable report at the hands of the finance committee and an attempt to bring a minority report out onto the floor of the House was unsuccessful.

Dog poisoning and ticket-scalping were made unlawful, and mail order purchases are now subject to the use tax.

Macon County Baptist Union Meeting

The Macon County Baptist Union meeting will be held at the Pine Grove Baptist church Sunday, March 30. The program is as follows:

9:45—Sunday school.

10:30—Devotional, Rev. R. F. Reed.

10:45—The Teaching Work of the Church, Paul Swafford.

11:05—Round Table Discussion on the above subject.

11:15—The Training Work of the Church, Miss Christine Browning.

11:35—Round Table Discussion on the above subject.

11:45—The Church Expressing Itself Through Missions, Mrs. Sam Gibson and Mrs. Jeter Higdon.

12:05—Round Table Discussion on the above subject.

12:15—Lunch.

1:30—The Church Supporting the Ministry, Rev. C. F. Rogers.

2:00—Round Table Discussion on the above subject.

2:30—Business and Adjournment.

Robert Williams, Moderator. Judson Smith, Clerk.

Walter Campbell of Iotla Passes Wednesday Night

Walter Campbell, 62, a well-known farmer of the Iotla community, died at his home on Wednesday night at 8 o'clock following an illness of nine hours. Death was the result of a heart attack and complications.

Mr. Campbell was the son of the late Charlie and Cornelius Byrd Campbell. He was born in 1878 in the Iotla section, where he lived all his life. He was a member of the Iotla Methodist church. In 1905 he was married to Miss Ella Poindexter, of Iotla.

Funeral services were held at the Iotla Methodist church on Thursday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The Rev. Philip L. Green, pastor, officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Surviving are the widow and three sons, Harold, of Charlotte, Coleman and Frederick, of Franklin Route 3, and two grandchildren.

TUNNEL CAVE-IN TRAPS 22 MEN

Rescued Without Casualty By Crew Of Dam Project

A cave-in which closed the tunnel of the Nantahala dam project last Sunday evening trapped 22 men for 11 hours before they were rescued about 4 o'clock Monday afternoon. The men were employees of the Utah Construction company, engaged in the construction of the hydro-electric dam for the Nantahala Power and Light company.

The tunnel was closed by an avalanche of earth and stone that fell about 40 feet from the entrance. The men were reported to have remained calm during the long hours in spite of the danger they faced from the backing up of water in the tunnel, which would have drowned the men in a few more hours. Foreman Ray Dixon stated:

Attempts to build a fire made breathing difficult so that the cold and dampness could not be relieved. The telephone connection was broken and the air shaft partially damaged. However, the electric power connection from the outside was in perfect working order so that the imprisoned men had light while their rescuers worked frantically to liberate them.

Those trapped were: Ray Dixon, foreman; Larry Bittely, Frank Brooks, Wilburn Moore, Paul Fadgett, John Bradshaw, Dugan West, Roy Garrett, B. Smiley, Eckell Rowland, Troy Crothers, Red Ramsey, Gar West, Bunny Rowland, Carl Flouquist, Latham Pulliam, Willard Hanney, Sam Crisp, Jake Cobe, Sonny Moore, E. B. Russell and Neville Wiggins. No casualties were reported.

J. M. Ledford Dies Suddenly

Julius Madison Ledford, 59, prominent merchant of Cartoogechaye and widely known citizen of Macon county, died suddenly from a heart attack on Wednesday morning about 10 o'clock. He had been in ill health for the past 10 years.

Mr. Ledford had gone to Wallace Mountain about five miles from his home where his son, Clyde Ledford, was cutting saw logs. He picked up an axe, then dropped it and fell over dead. Robert Penland and Rufus Collier were also present at the time.

Mr. Ledford had operated a general merchandise store on Cartoogechaye for the past 17 years. He was the son of Sarah Ledford and the late Melvin Ledford, of the Prentiss section.

Funeral services will be held on Friday morning at 11 o'clock at the Union Methodist church. The Rev. J. C. Swain, pastor, will officiate. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

The pallbearers will be Gordon Ledford, Frank Shope, Kenneth Ledford, Quince Shope, Harold Ledford and Jess Shope.

Surviving are his wife, the former Miss Florence Blaine and five children; three sons, Clyde Ledford and Cecil Ledford, of Franklin Route 1, and David Ledford, of Rainbow Springs; two daughters, Mrs. Margaret Boyd, of Abbeville, S. C., and Mrs. Richard Shope, of Prentiss, his mother, Mrs. Sarah Ledford and two brothers, Ransom Ledford and Zimmary Ledford all of Prentiss.

Barbara McCall, 7, Victim Of Pneumonia

Barbara Sue McCall, seven-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilburn McCall died at their home near the Franklin depot on Thursday morning about 9 o'clock, following an illness of 18 days. Death was caused from pneumonia and complications.

Funeral services will be held on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock at the Sugarloaf Baptist church. The Rev. Lester Sorrells will officiate. Burial will be in the church cemetery.

Surviving are the parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Mack McCall.

Mayor Harrison Files For Election

John Harrison, the present mayor, is the only candidate who has, so far, filed for the coming election of town officials. This election will be held on May 6, and the dead line for filing for any of the offices is April 5.