



The Franklin Press

and
The Highlands Maconian



Give the gift that signifies America is not to be caught napping.
DEFENSE BONDS STAMPS

PROGRESSIVE LIBERAL INDEPENDENT

VOL. LVII, NO. 3

FRANKLIN, N. C. THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1942

\$1.50 PER YEAR

WAR PICTURE ON ALL FRONTS

Ship Torpedoed Off Montauk; Nelson Chief Of Production

WASHINGTON
Donald M. Nelson, former mail order house executive, was appointed by President on Tuesday to be generalissimo of America's war production program.

"The best way to get this nightmare over is to double the defense program and shoot the works," says Don Nelson, who used to buy everything advertised in Sears-Roebuck catalogue.

Sumner Wells will represent the U. S. at the Pan American conference on the World War beginning in the Brazilian capital Thursday.

U-BOAT SINKS SHIP OFF MONTAUK POINT

The tanker Normess from Panama was torpedoed and sunk off the east coast on Wednesday, 60 miles south of Montauk Point. Survivors are being brought in but the loss of life is not yet known. Warnings have gone out of submarines close to the Atlantic and Pacific shores.

FAR EAST

Gen. McArthur still holds out after 40 days of siege, under heavy Japanese renewed attacks, which have been beaten off, inflicting heavy losses. He reports that the same ruthless treatment of civilians in Manila are being practiced as the Nazis use in conquered cities.

Admiral Hart, allied naval commander-in-chief, has arrived in the Dutch East Indies, with the U. S. Pacific fleet in tact, only one small vessel lost, the navy announces.

A shorter British line has been established by the British at Johore, 90 miles from Singapore, where a battle is imminent.

More air and land reinforcements have reached the British in Burma.

MOSCOW

The Reds continue their advances against the Nazis, 100,000 troops being menaced by new Soviet gains.

Highlands And Franklin Plan Paralysis Campaign

Macon's Quota Announced By Mrs. F. H. Potts To Be \$195

Macon County's quota for the Infantile Paralysis Foundation fund this year has been set at \$195, according to an announcement by Mrs. Frank H. Potts, county chairman.

A. G. Cagle, chairman for Franklin, states that plans are under way to raise Franklin's share of this quota, with several parties and other activities. A Birthday Ball will be the leading feature of the festivities and will be given at Panorama Court. The date will be announced next week.

Miss Eva Potts, chairman for the town of Highlands, announces that the following entertainments have been planned to help raise Highlands' share of this county quota: a moving picture show by Highlands School Theatre; a keno party at the school lunch room, under the supervision of Mrs. H. P. P. Thompson, and a Birthday Ball, under the supervision of Miss Sarah Thompson, fourth grade school teacher.

Miss Potts also advises that Miss Ethel Calloway and her fifth grade students will have entire charge of the sale of buttons here this year, and that coin containers will be placed in business houses.

Wage War On Defense

Since the question may have arisen in the minds of many, in view of the fact that the nation is now at war, as to whether we should have a Celebration of the President's Birthday, we are quoting at length from a letter just received by our county chairman from Keith Morgan, National Chairman of the Committee for the Celebration of the President's

Registration

Announced For Feb. 16th For Men 20 To 45

The Macon draft board has received notice that the 3rd registration of selectees will be held on February 16, for all men between the ages of 20 and 45, who have not previously registered.

The board will soon announce the places of registration in the county and the names of the registrars who will be in charge.

Sprinkler System Break Damages Bank Building

A break in a T of the sprinkler system in the Bank building last Sunday afternoon caused the flooding of the bank and Sanders store, and of the offices of Dr. W. A. Rogers and Jones and Jones. The damage was covered by insurance.

Cold Wave Hits Macon With Zero Weather

The temperature hit the lowest for this season during the past week. Saturday night many thermometers registered below zero, and hovered in that vicinity until late Sunday morning when the mercury began to rise. A light snow that fell Friday night in Franklin disappeared the next morning.

TOMPKINS REMOVING TO NEW YORK

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Joel Tompkins will regret to learn that Mr. Tompkins has been transferred from this territory where he has been an engineer on the staff of the Nantahala Power and Light company for the past four years. He has been assigned to a defense project of the Aluminum Company of America that is being constructed at Messina, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Tompkins and little son, "Tommy", will leave next week for their new home.

N. C. E. A.

A meeting of the Macon county unit of the N. C. E. A. has been changed due to the tire situation. Instead there will be a brief meeting Saturday, January 17. According to the president of the unit, Mrs. Jessie B. Horsley. Two goals set for this year are the adoption of a constitution and a code of ethics. Committees headed by O. F. Sumner and E. G. Crawford are busy on these two aims. All committee chairmen will report to the group.

The social committee is making plans for the annual banquet. The present membership in this county is 91.

VICTORY BOOK DRIVE IS BEGUN

J. E. S. Thorpe Chairman Of Book Campaign For Men In Service

On Monday, January 12, a Victory Book Campaign was started in every part of the United States. The purpose of this national move is to collect gifts of books for our soldiers and sailors and marines in forts, camps, posts, stations and on ships all over the world.

The rapid increase of our armed forces requires that the regular library services of the Army and Navy be greatly and quickly augmented. Reading matter and text books will be furnished to U.S.O. houses and for the American Merchant Marine Library Association.

All Asked To Share

J. E. S. Thorpe is chairman for Macon county, and he requested that collections of books be begun by individuals and organizations who will want to have a share in this library service to our men in the armed forces of the nation at war. On the last page of this paper will be found information concerning the kind of books needed, and Mr. Thorpe's special appeal to all groups of citizens to take part in the national Victory Book Campaign.

"Our boys want books, and we will see that they get them", is the spirit of the folks back home. Mr. Thorpe will send for books if notified, and he requests that deliveries be made at the office of Guy L. Houk, superintendent of schools, in the court house.

Mr. and Mrs. Dills

Celebrate 65th Wedding Anniversary

The 65th anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Vance Dills, of upper Cartoogechay will be celebrated by them with a family dinner on January 17.

Mrs. Dills at 85 is well and active, still doing her own housework, and Mr. Dills, 84, looking fully ten years younger, paid a visit to the Franklin Press on Monday, and attested to his good health and active, outdoor life.

Mr. Dills said he had seen four wars, remembering the War Between the States as a child, when he saw his parents and their neighbors bury the corn and meat in the side of a hill to hide it from marauding Northern soldiers. He volunteered to go to the Philippines in a company that was being formed in Macon county by Frank Ray, Sr., "but" he said, "it was all over with before we had to go."

Both Mr. and Mrs. Dills are natives of Macon county, Mrs. Dills being the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Nichols of upper Cartoogechay. They have lived in the same house for 58 years, and have brought up a family of seven children. Their oldest child, a son, and youngest, a daughter, are deceased.

The children are Mrs. Fanny Bingham, Mrs. Ramsey Patton, Mrs. Edward Cruse, Mrs. Walter J. Kenny, Mrs. Texie Beck, Arthur and Allen Dills. There are 64 grandchildren, 66 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. One grandson, Kenneth Cruse, has been in the Army for more than a year and others are expecting to go soon. One son, Arthur, is not married and lives with his parents. The entire family is expected at the dinner in celebration of the 65th anniversary of this couple, an event that is rare in family history, as is the record of 139 descendants. To few couples is given so many years together, and blessed with such a large number of offspring. Their many friends send congratulations.

Garments Shipped Macon Red Cross

The production of garments for the County Red Cross is now well advanced. Ten sweaters, pairs of pajamas, and pairs of socks have been shipped to the front.

Dies Suddenly



M. D. Billings, prominent citizen and educator, passed at his home last Friday afternoon.

MR. BILLINGS DIES SUDDENLY

Prominent Banker And Educator Succumbs To Heart Attack

Marcus Devereux Billings, 65, one of Macon county's best known and most prominent citizens, died suddenly at his home on Friday afternoon, January 9, at five o'clock. He had just driven home in his car, accompanied by Mrs. Paul Grist, when he was stricken by a heart attack and died instantly.

His sudden passing was a shock to his friends throughout the county, as he appeared to be in good health and had talked to a number of people on the street during the morning hours. He announced himself as a candidate for the Legislature a few months ago.

A large crowd attended the funeral services on Sunday afternoon at 2 p. m. at the Methodist church of which the deceased was a member. The pastor, Rev. J. L. Stokes II, assisted by Rev. C. F. Rogers, Rev. A. R. Morgan, Rev. Hubert Wardlaw and Rev. George W. Davis, officiated. Burial was in the Franklin cemetery.

Pallbearers were M. L. Dowdle, Henry W. Cabe, Gilmer A. Jones, Dr. Edgar Angel, W. T. Tippet, Dr. W. A. Rogers, A. B. Slagle and Robert A. Patton.

Honorary pallbearers were James Dryman, C. F. Moody, F. T. Smith, John E. Rickman, John O. Harrison, Grover Jamison, Sr., T. W. Angel, E. W. Long, Ben McCollum, James J. Mann, Lawrence B. Linder, George Dean, Grover Jamison, Jr., W. C. Wilkes, Jim Willis, John Tallent, C. S. Tilley, Lee Tippet, Fred Willis, Carl S. Slagle and J. S. Conley.

At the time of his death Mr. Billings was vice-president and director of the Bank of Franklin and a member of the board of aldermen. He had also served as Mayor. He came to Franklin from Tennessee in 1899 as a teacher, the same year marrying Miss Kate Clarke of Tennessee, who died on March 31, 1941. He is survived by one brother, William, of Kingston, Tenn., and a number of nieces and nephews. Mrs. C. L. Calfee of Madisonville, Tenn., and Mrs. Guy Garner of Atlanta, nieces of Mrs. Billings, and Mr. Garner, attended the funeral.

Developed Macon Schools

Talented as a financier, Mr. Billings was by nature an educator and scholar, and his books were his hobby.

His life-long major interest was the development of the school system of Macon county.

During the first 20 years of his superintendency, the value of the school property in the county increased from \$72,000 to \$1,200,000. The high school was established in 1911, and the first year of the school year was held during the year, including 33 negro scouts, 54 per cent of the score in the council on December 1941.

Chamber Of Commerce To Meet Tuesday Night

Red Cross War Relief Contributions Acknowledged

The chairmen of the local organization for war relief are going forward toward our \$1500 quota for War Relief Red Cross Fund. The total deposits as to date \$518.42. This does not include Highlands contributions. Also there are other committees who have not reported, but it is estimated that if all the reports were in we would be well over the half-way mark. The following are some of the contributors, others will be posted next week:

Nantahala Power and Light company and employees \$70.25; Patton's Methodist Sunday School \$3.50; St. Agnes Episcopal Sunday School \$2; Mrs. Neil Johnson \$5; Mrs. Elinor C. West \$5; H. D. West \$5; Franklin Garden and Flower Club \$25; W. C. Burrell and Employees \$50.50; Catherine F. Henry \$3; Harmony Community, by Mrs. Weaver Gibson \$4.35; Mrs. Gordon Moore \$5; Macon County Chapter U. D. C. \$5; Macon County Theatre \$5; Otto Community, by Mrs. Parrish \$9.95; T. W. Porter \$2; Mrs. M. L. Dowdle \$5; Rev. A. R. Morgan \$2; J. W. Addington \$2; W. E. Hunnicutt \$2; Blanche Howard \$5; Dr. Ed Angel \$5; Gladys Vinson \$5; St. Agnes Woman's Auxiliary \$5; Andrew Ray, Colored Community \$5; The Franklin Press \$5; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Flemming \$2.

The following made \$1 contributions:

E. J. Whitmire, Mrs. W. J. Wilkie, Dr. H. T. Horsley, Mrs. Chas. Stiles, Mrs. L. P. Compton, M. D. Billings, Grace Wilkes, Bill Hall, Geo. Dalrymple, Mrs. Florence Sherrill, Mrs. Grover Jamison, Lee Poindexter, Ras Penland, Harold Sloan, Mrs. Theo. Siler, Mrs. Geo. Jones, John Dills, Mrs. George Sloan, Mrs. R. B. Dean, Mrs. Herman Dean, W. T. Wright, G. W. Burch, E. Howard, J. E. Jennings, H. W. Cabe, Lawrence Linder, Mrs. W. M. Dills, Miss Shuford, Mrs. W. H. Sellers, N. Poliakoff, Mrs. J. J. Angel, Mrs. C. D. Baird, Mr. McCoy, J. F. Browning, Mrs. Mac Franks, Russell Cabe, Bill Sloan.

James Hauser

Receives High Award At Scouters Convention

James L. Hauser, scoutmaster of the Franklin troop, was presented with the silver beaver award at the Scouters Convention of the Daniel Boone Council held in Asheville last Monday night.

These awards are made each year by the council to scout leaders who have outstanding records of service. J. N. Arthur of Asheville also received the award. W. A. Dobson of Atlanta, executive having supervision of Scout activities in the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida, made the principal address.

Those attending the Convention and banquet from Franklin were Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Conley, Rev. and Mrs. J. L. Stokes and Rev. A. R. Morgan. Mr. Conley was appointed to serve for the coming year on the council's finance committee.

The annual report of the council showed 82 courts of honor held during the year, including 33 negro scouts, 54 per cent of the score in the council on December 1941.

The program will begin at 7 p. m. with band music and choir singing, directed by J. Francis Don Elias, president of the Chamber of Commerce, vice-president of the Citizen-Times.

The address will be given by Mayor Roy Rogers, president of the Chamber of Commerce, vice-president of the Citizen-Times.

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Fontana Transportation; Franklin Housing To Be Discussed

Ben Woodruff, president of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce, has called a special meeting of the membership of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce and all interested citizens at the court house on Tuesday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Much local interest has developed in the prospect of securing a number of new residents for Franklin who will come to this section in connection with the Fontana dam project just across the line in Swain county. It has been learned that Bryson City cannot begin to accommodate the families who will move into this section.

The chamber of commerce of Bryson City and Sylva have already taken active steps to provide transportation and housing. The Franklin organization will consider the same problems at the meeting next Tuesday. It has been noted that there are a number of vacant houses and apartments in Franklin, at the present time, and that the chamber of commerce is the medium which should be prepared to furnish information for the benefit of newcomers and for the advantage of business interests.

Charles Melichar, president of the Rotary club, reported to the club at luncheon on Wednesday that he had written to the Smoky Mountains Stages for information in regard to a regular bus line between Franklin and the dam, but that he had not yet received a reply.

It was learned yesterday that there are local people interested in establishing transportation service for employees living in this vicinity.

Board of Directors To Meet
The board of directors will meet after the general meeting to consider the registration of the board's president, Ben Woodruff, who is moving to Charlotte the last of the month, and for the appointment of his successor.

Patriotic Rally

For W.N.C. In Asheville With Distinguished Speakers, Jan 16

An invitation has been extended to all of Western North Carolina to attend a big patriotic rally to be held in the City Auditorium in Asheville on Friday evening, January 16. The gathering is sponsored and is being arranged by the Asheville Chamber of Commerce, assisted by the American Legion, in an effort to arouse in this section a deeper appreciation of the supreme gravity of the situation of our country, and to strengthen the concerted effort of the entire citizenship towards winning the war.

Distinguished Speakers

"What can I do in Civilian Defense?" is the subject of an address by Theodore Johnson, State Director of Civilian Defense, and former Governor Clyde R. Hoey, will also deliver an address.

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