

# The Franklin Press

and  
The Highlands Maconian

PROGRESSIVE — LIBERAL — INDEPENDENT

VOL. LX—NO. 52

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, DEC. 27, 1945

\$2.00

## Power Firm Spending \$365,000

### WEATHER AGAIN ON RAMPAGE AS ICE STORM HITS

Traffic, Communications Paralyzed; Train, Buses Fail To Arrive

The weather, continuing its early winter rampage, delayed and interrupted communications and traffic this week, the third in a row.

Southwestern North Carolina, however, was less hard hit than other sections. Northern Georgia, northern South Carolina, and sections of Western North Carolina farther east suffered one of the worst sleet storms in the history of this region.

The train over the Tallulah Falls railway failed to arrive here Tuesday, due to lines of the Georgia Power and Light company being down, and was three hours late in arriving on Wednesday. Other mails also were delayed or interrupted.

Starting Monday night, long distance lines southward from Franklin have been out of order, due to the sleet and ice in northern Georgia, with the operators unable to get stations beyond Clayton. Eastward, calls could not be put through beyond Asheville.

While work crews have been busy on the lines since the early part of the week, James R. Hughley, general manager of the Western Carolina Telephone company, said Thursday that the long distance situation remained little changed, but that service in the county was about normal again.

Monday night Franklin and most of this county had the fourth snow of the winter, the fall here having been about one inch. Monday there was snow and sleet.

With highways icy, only two buses were able to operate through Franklin Monday. The Asheville-Atlanta bus arrived three hours late, while the Atlanta-Asheville bus was two hours past its scheduled hour in reaching Franklin.

Local postal workers have been under a double strain, the weather having made delivery of the heavy Christmas mail doubly difficult.

### Do You Remember ... ?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

#### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Prof. M. C. Allen and Postmaster F. T. Smith left Friday to visit the Atlanta Exposition. During the absence of Mr. Smith, Mr. H. H. Jarrett is acting postmaster, pro tem.

Under the new Kentucky constitution women are eligible for jury service.

#### 25 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Last Friday the town of Tullulah Falls, from the depot this way, including two large hotels, was burned. The big railroad trestle there also was destroyed.

Mr. J. F. Ray, Jr., of Washington, D. C., is spending the holidays with home folks here.

Mr. Lee Poindexter and Miss Bessie Holland were married on December 18 in Franklin, the Rev. J. R. Pendergrass officiating.

Mr. T. W. Angel, Jr., is here for the holidays from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

#### 15 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Highlands enjoyed a white Christmas, a three-inch snow covering the ground.

While returning from Johnson City, Tenn., Monday, Mrs. T. S. Munday and Mrs. P. F. Callahan had a narrow escape from death when their car overturned on an icy road.

Miss Lois Ferguson and Mr. Robert Fulton were quietly married in Brevard December 5.

### Macon Boy Wins Silver Star For Heroic Deed In Germany

The story of the heroism of a Macon county boy in Germany more than a year ago has just come to light, following the recent award to him of the Silver Star medal, one of the highest decorations an American serviceman can win.

The soldier is Cpl. Charles Smart, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Smart of Franklin.

Alone, he crawled through mud and enemy fire to wipe out two fortified German positions, back in November, 1944.

A member of the 413th Infantry, Cpl. Smart was decorated with the Silver Star last September 25, and his parents recently received a copy of the citation. It sets forth that the award was "for gallantry in action in Germany on 28 Novem-

ber, 1944", and continues:

"With utter disregard for his own safety, Cpl. Smart crawled through mud and murderous fire to destroy singlehandedly a strong enemy machine gun nest. Although wounded, he continued forward over fifty yards of fire-swept terrain, still alone, and wiped out a second fortified enemy position. Cpl. Smart's remarkable heroism exemplifies the finest military traditions and reflects the highest credit upon himself and the armed forces of the United States."

Cpl. Smart, who entered the service in May, 1943, returned from overseas last July and is stationed at Camp Beale, Calif. He spent a few days here recently, but left Christmas night to return to Camp Beale.

### Slagle Sells Transylvania Dairy Plant

A. B. Slagle of Franklin, owner of the Nantahala Creamery company here and of the Transylvania Dairies in Brevard, has sold the latter property to the Southern Dairies, Inc., it has been announced.

The deal was closed last week, and the operation of the Transylvania plant will be taken over by the Southern Dairies effective January 1.

Included in the purchase were an acre and a half of real estate, the large dairy plant, two residences, and a garage, as well as the trucks and all the Brevard concern's wholesale and retail business.

Charles Rackley, manager of the Asheville branch of the Southern Dairies, who is a native of Transylvania county, announced that hereafter the Brevard plant will be used as a receiving and distributing center, with the processing done at the Asheville plant of Southern Dairies. He also announced plans to remodel the Brevard plant and construct larger storage rooms.

Mr. Slagle, it is understood, plans to devote his entire attention to his Nantahala plant in Franklin.

### Wage Earners

To Get Benefit Of Lower Taxes January 1

Macon county people will get their first taste of the new, lower income taxes in January.

Under the new law, tax cuts apply to 1946 income, and therefore go into effect next Tuesday, January 1. That means smaller amounts will be withheld from pay received on and after that date, even though the pay is for work done in 1945.

Indicative of what the tax reduction means, a man married with two children and an income of \$2,500 will get a 52 per cent cut in his taxes.

### Macon County Men On Way Home From Overseas Service

James H. Crawford, QM third class, of Franklin, is one of 1,865 high point navy veterans whom the "Magic Carpet" is bringing back to the States aboard the U. S. S. Drake.

Pfc. Royal A. Hicks, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hicks, of the Aquone section of the county, was among the 3,000 high-point army veterans who arrived in the States aboard the U. S. S. Windsor.

Willard M. Hawk, seaman first class, son of Mrs. Blanche Hawk, of Aquone, was aboard the U. S. S. Hunter Liggett, one of the 841 high point navy veterans recently returned to the States.

James Glenn, seaman first class, son of Mrs. Myrtle E. Glenn, of Aquone, was aboard the U. S. S. Henry when it brought 2,000 high-point navy veterans to the States recently.

### CHARLOTTE OPA OFFICE CLOSES

Institutions, Industries To Get Sugar Rations From Raleigh

The Charlotte OPA district headquarters has closed its files on the issuance of institutional and industrial sugar rations and packed them for shipment to the Raleigh office, which will become OPA headquarters for the state shortly after January 1.

All mail received from now on with regard to institutional and industrial sugar rations will be forwarded directly to the Raleigh office, it was explained by the Charlotte OPA officials.

Institutional users are restaurants, hospitals, and the like which use the sugar for other than manufacturing purposes. Industrial users are those which use the sugar for producing food items. These users include such places as bottling plants, bakeries, and similar concerns.

The institutional users get allotments of sugar every two months. Their next allotments will be for the January-February period. This type of user makes application on the basis of the amount of sugar used the previous two months, the number of persons served, the amount used in the base period, and other factors.

The industrial users get their allotments on a three months basis. This group already has received from the Charlotte OPA office the allotments through March. The next allotments to be obtained by them from the Raleigh office will be for April, May and June.

The actual date for the closing of the Charlotte OPA district office is January 15. After that date all the North Carolina OPA business will be handled from Raleigh.

The Western North Carolina restaurants, hospitals, and the like which get their sugar on two months allotments, and which have yet to be allotted their January and February quotas, must apply to the Raleigh office, it was explained.

### Miss Hair Leaves To Take Position In Ahoskie Church

Miss Josephine Hair, educational director of the Franklin Baptist church since last June, has tendered her resignation to accept a position with the Ahoskie Baptist church, Ahoskie, N. C.

Miss Hair, a native of Greenwood, S. C., while with the Franklin church organized a junior - intermediate choir, taught a number of study courses, assisted in the vacation Bible school, and assisted in a vacation Bible school in a local Negro church. Since the church has been without a pastor, she has acted as associate pastor, taking charge of the mid-week prayer services and the services on Sunday evenings.

Miss Hair will assume her new duties with the Ahoskie church January 1.

### NEW PASTOR WILL ARRIVE NEXT WEEK

Parker To Fill Baptist Pulpit At Services On January 6

The Rev. Charles E. Parker, the new pastor of the Franklin Baptist church, will arrive in Franklin next week to assume his duties, and will conduct both the morning and evening services on Sunday, January 6, it was announced this week by officials of the church.

Mr. Parker comes here from Winston-Salem, where he has been chaplain of the North Carolina Baptist hospital since 1940. Prior to that, he served as pastor of Beck's Baptist church in Winston-Salem, and the Eller Memorial church in Greensboro.

A native of Bertie county, this state, he was educated at Campbell and Mars Hill college and the Southern Baptist seminary.

He succeeds the Rev. J. F. Marchman, who resigned about three months ago. In the interval, the pulpit here has been filled by supply ministers.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker, who is the former Miss Elizabeth Cross of Sanford, have three children. Mrs. Parker and the children will not come here until about February 1.

The new minister was extended the call to the local church about two months ago. Members of the pulpit committee, charged with recommending a new pastor to the congregation, were Mrs. I. T. Peek, Walter Dean, Dr. W. B. Woodward, Paul Carpenter, Herman Plemons, and John Moore.

### Tells Of 'Log' Of 14 Doomed In Sunk Ship

Gilmer L. Crawford, who has been in Honolulu for more than three years, arrived in Franklin 10 days ago for a visit with his family, the first time he has been home since 1943.

Mr. Crawford, a civilian naval employe, has been serving at the Pearl Harbor navy yard as supervisor of welding and burning by shipfitters, boilermakers, and pipefitters. In that capacity, he has worked on almost every battleship, cruiser, and destroyer that has entered the harbor.

Among others which he has helped to repair, he said, were the Franklin, following the explosion of that vessel, and the Oklahoma.

He helped to raise and repair the latter, and told of seeing the "log" kept by 14 men who were imprisoned in one of the ship's compartments when it was sunk.

The "log", written on the wall of the compartment, told how the first day the men knew they were under water, but did not know what had happened. The second day's entries told how they had been contacted by divers' tapping, and had replied the same way; the men were quite hopeful of rescue. By the third day they had given up hope, and their flashlights had burned out, leaving them without light. The fourth and final day's entries were barely legible, the men having grown weak from the lack of air that resulted in their deaths.

Mr. Crawford remarked that every time a hospital ship, loaded with wounded men, entered Pearl Harbor, production jumped about 100 per cent, and remained up for two weeks or so.

In Hawaii, he said, many things, including clothing, are cheaper than in the States, but food is more expensive, and there is little variety. The only items rationed on the islands during the war were tires, gasoline, and whiskey.

### W. N. C. Man Is Pallbearer At Patton Funeral

A man from the mountains of Western North Carolina was one of the six enlisted men selected to serve as pallbearers at the funeral of Gen. George S. Patton, Jr., in Germany last Sunday.

He is Sgt. Oliver R. Day of Hudson, Caldwell county. Sgt. Day and the other five were chosen for their soldierly qualities to serve as pallbearers for the colorful American general.

### DEATH CLAIMS C. A. BRYSON

West's Mill Man, Former County Commissioner, Buried Monday

C. A. Bryson, widely known Macon county citizen, died at his home in the West's Mill community last Sunday morning at 5 o'clock, following an illness of 10 days. Death was attributed to a heart attack.

Mr. Bryson, 78-year old farmer, in recent years, served for four two-year terms as a member of the board of county commissioners. Earlier in life, he was affiliated with the Masons and the Odd Fellows.

A life-long resident of the West's Mills community, he was born October 9, 1869, the son of Samuel Bryson and Mrs. Mary Morrison Bryson. In 1912, he was married to Miss Nannie Matlock, who survives.

Funeral services were held on Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Snow Hill Methodist church, with the Rev. C. C. Welch, pastor of the Cowee Baptist church, and the Rev. Norman E. Holden, of the West's Mill community, officiating. The pastor, the Rev. D. P. Grant, was unable to participate, due to illness. Interment followed in the church cemetery.

The pallbearers were E. O. Rickman, Charlie Matlock, Purnell Bryson, George Potts, C. Tom Bryson and Perry Matlock.

The honorary pallbearers included C. L. Blaine, Dr. J. H. Fouts, E. H. Parrish, Clyde N. West, D. C. Byrd, R. R. Rickman, J. T. Raby, Dr. W. A. Rogers, Earley Bradley, Ed McCoy, J. Perry Bradley, George Dalrymple, Gaston Dean, T. M. Rickman, Harry Potts and Derrell Queen.

Surviving in addition to the widow are three sons, Earl and Harry Bryson, both of Boise, Idaho, who flew home to be at the bedside of their father, and Frank Bryson, who is serving in the armed forces in France; one brother, Robert T. Bryson, Franklin, Route 3; one sister, Miss Beulah Bryson, Franklin, Route 3; and two grandchildren, Kathleen and William E. Bryson, of Boise, Idaho.

Funeral arrangements were under the direction of the Potts funeral directors.

### Plan Fifth Sunday Sing At Courthouse Dec. 30

The Fifth Sunday Singing convention will be held at the Macon county courthouse Sunday, starting at 10 o'clock, it has been announced by James M. Raby, president. Mr. Raby said that he expects singers from adjoining states as well as many of the nearby counties. The public is invited.

### County's Schools To Resume Classes On Monday Morning

The public schools of Macon county are scheduled to resume regular class room work next Monday, December 31.

The youngsters have the bad weather to thank for a two-week holiday vacation. The schools were to have continued in session until the Friday before Christmas, but the condition of the county roads forced their closing on December 18.

### NANTAHALA TO BUILD 300 MILES OF RURAL LINES

Expansion Will Benefit 2,000 Additional Farm Families

The Nantahala Power and Light company is spending more than one-third of a million dollars on an expansion program that will make electricity available to approximately 2,000 additional rural families in Southwestern North Carolina by the end of 1946, it was announced this week at the company's headquarters here.

Approximately 300 miles of new line, in addition to short extensions and tie-ins, has been built the last half of 1945, or will be constructed next year.

Since the program got under way last June, the company has spent about \$150,000, and its plans call for expenditures totaling \$215,000 in 1946. The expansion will be continued, officials said, into 1947, and until the entire five counties—Macon, Jackson, Swain, Cherokee, and Graham—in which the concern operates are served.

The 1945 construction was delayed until the government restrictions on this type of work were lifted June 2, and shortage of materials since that date has hampered the program. In many cases, it was pointed out, lines begun earlier this year are now complete except for some one item which has not been available.

Even so, the six-month period from June 2 to December 1 saw approximately 100 miles of high and low voltage lines built, making service connections possible for 907 additional customers, nearly all of whom live in the rural sections. This represents 1,379 creosoted poles put in, 219 small transformers (in addition to larger ones) to serve customers installed, and 704,748 circuit feet of lines built. Most of this is in the nature of extensions from main lines.

About 40 per cent of the work completed was in the Macon-Jackson area served by the Franklin office, while about 30 per cent was in the territory served by the Bryson City office, and the remaining 30 per cent in Cherokee and Graham counties, served from Andrews. Under construction, but not quite complete, are lines totaling about 25 miles, which are expected to serve approximately 150 customers.

The program has resulted in a 30 per cent increase in the approximately 100 employees the firm normally carries on its payroll. The present available labor force, however, is sufficient to carry out the work proposed next year, officials said.

How rapidly the work can be pushed in 1946 will depend, it was pointed out, upon availability of materials.

The company's program for next year, however, calls for construction of 170 miles of rural lines.

It is estimated that this will add 1,000 new customers, with another 180 to be added by means of low voltage extensions and cut-ins from existing lines.

Thus the program anticipates providing service to a total of 2,087 customers, through the construction of 295 miles of line at a cost of \$365,000.

### A. B. Slagle, III At His Home, Is Much Improved

A. B. Slagle, well known Franklin business man, became quite ill December 21, but is now reported to be much improved. Although still confined to his home, Thursday he was able to be up, and members of his family and his physician expressed the belief that rest from work soon will restore him to his usual good health.

California lemon shipments last winter, November through April, were 50 per cent greater than the average of the five years ending with 1938.