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ZICKGRAF FIRM PLANT BACK ON FULL CAPACITY

**New Band Mill Operating,
New Dry Kiln Finished;
Additions Under Way**

The Zickgraf Hardwood company, seriously hampered by the recent fire at its plant, is now back to full capacity, with new and better equipment than the old in operation. The new equipment, in fact, gives the mill a somewhat greater capacity, W. C. Zickgraf, head of the firm, explained.

The new band mill, with all new and improved electrically-driven machinery, started operation the latter part of last week on full time. And the firm has completed a new fire-proof boiler and fuel house, with a 25-foot brick wall constructed around it.

Also just finished is a second dry kiln of the latest type, and a Vommegut electric - driven moulder is to be installed within a few days, Mr. Zickgraf said.

The company plans in future to work up all its lumber—into house materials, furniture stock, etc.—through its own plant here, and an addition is being constructed to the manufacturing plant. The manufacturing building, now 40 x 80 feet, will be enlarged to 40 x 120 feet, and modern machinery installed.

The addition is expected to be completed and the machinery installed within about 30 days.

West Buys Building On Main Street

The eastern half of the old Johnston, or Porter, building, in the business section of West Main street, was bought this week by Henry D. West. The purchase price was not disclosed.

He acquired the property from Baldwin and Limer, who, in turn, had purchased it from J. D. Porter.

The other half of the two-story brick structure is owned by the American Legion.

The half purchased by Mr. West houses the Dryman Feed and Grocery on the main floor, with apartments upstairs. While Mr. West made no announcement of his plans, it is understood he proposes to make some improvements.

The building at one time was owned by the late Jack Johnston, and later by the late Bob Porter.

Mr. West, who recently sold his grocery business to the Arnold brothers, said he had bought the property as an investment.

Dies At 89

**Mrs. Nancy Wright Conley
Was Native Of County**

Mrs. Nancy Wright Conley 89, widow of James Conley died at the home of her son George Conley, in the Otto section of Macon county Sunday morning at 4 o'clock, following an illness of several years.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock at Dryman's Chapel Methodist church. The Rev. V. N. Allen, pastor officiated, and interment followed in the church cemetery.

The pallbearers were G. L. Garland, H. E. Justice, Ed Henson, Walter Cabe, Paul Brown and Hayes Buchanan.

A native of Macon county, Mrs. Conley was a daughter of Henry Wright and Elmira Peek Wright, she had lived in this county all her life except for two years spent in Gastonia. She was a member of the Dryman's Chapel church.

Surviving one daughter, Mrs. Ruthie Rogers, of Gastonia, two sons, George and Henry Conley, of the Otto community; two brothers, Lee and Robert Wright, of the State of Washington, and a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Potts funeral home was in charge of the arrangements.

Mrs. John Strother, of Knoxville, Tenn., has returned home after a week's visit with Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Culbertson at their home on the Dillard road.

Slagle To Build Scout House Of Native Stone As Memorial To Son

A. B. Slagle will build a Scout house on top of the wooded hill just west of the Nantahala creamery as a memorial to his son, Charlie W. Slagle, and will donate the hill and the house for the use of Franklin Boy Scouts.

The announcement was made at Wednesday evening's meeting of the Rotary club, of which young Mr. Slagle was a member, by H. W. Cabe, member of a Rotary committee appointed several weeks ago to seek a site for a Scout house.

Mr. Slagle also has in mind use of the structure as a community building by other public groups, Mr. Cabe explained.

Charlie W. Slagle, who died June 23 as a result of an accident, was one of the first two Macon County boys to become Eagle Scouts, the highest rank in scouting. (Gilmer A. Jones, Jr., became an Eagle Scout at the same court of honor.) And, following his return from service overseas, he had served as acting scoutmaster of the troop

at Carson's Chapel.

In the Slagle home on West Main street is a small statue of a Boy Scout, kneeling to take the Scout pledge. It was presented to Charlie Slagle at the time he became an Eagle Scout, and when the memorial building is completed, this little statue will be placed somewhere in the Scout house.

The proposed structure will be of native stone. While the architect's drawings have not been completed, Mr. Slagle said the building will be about 30 by 50 feet, and will contain a basement, possibly to be used as a kitchen and dining room.

A road will be constructed from the highway, and will wind around the hill, reaching the summit on the opposite side from that at which it leaves the highway. A parking space will be built with the earth excavated for the basement. To avoid its looking into the ugly cut that marks the highway at that point, the building will face north.

100 MAKE FARM TOUR OF MACON

More than 100 Macon County farmers, representing every township in the county, were taken on a farm tour Monday. The group, led by S. W. Mendenhall, Don Allison, and Basil Dixon, county extension workers, left the Agriculture building at 9:30 a. m. for an all-day observation trip.

The first farm visited was A. L. Ramsey's, where three different seedings of alfalfa were examined, and the advantage of fall seeding over spring seeding was noted. Soybeans to be disked down in preparation for seeding more alfalfa were seen. Parts of the field that were short on lime were evident to everyone.

Melvin Penland showed his registered Guernsey heifer, sponsored by the Macon County Supply, at this stop.

The second farm was John Keener's, which is part of the Calloway place. Here an outstanding demonstration was seen of the value of lime and phosphate on pasture and meadow. Where these materials had been used, there was good grass and lespedeza, while the land was nearly bare where these materials had not been used. A field of good yellow hybrid corn was observed. Mr. Keener has converted badly eroded, worn-out land into a profitable farm.

The next stop was at E. J. Whitmire's, where alfalfa, alfalfa hay, ladino clover, and good quality white-face cattle were seen. The alfalfa had been cut three times, yielding 1½ tons per acre per cutting, the last cutting only two weeks before. The alfalfa had already grown back knee-high. A six-acre ladino pasture that grazed 17 cattle all winter was observed. No grain was fed and the cattle were in extra good condition.

The party then went to the farm of Woodrow Teague, where time was taken out for lunch and Coble Dairy Products served watermelon. Mr. Teague's Grade A barn, pasture, and good milk cows were seen. Where lime and phosphate had been used on pasture, there was a good growth of grass and clover, and only broom sedge where these materials were not used. Victor Teague showed his registered heifer, which is sponsored by Wowdle Wholesale company.

Harley Stewart's farm was next. There another type of Grade A barn was seen, as well as a fertilizer demonstration on pasture, good purebred and grade Guernsey cattle, and upright silos that Mr. Stewart and his boys built. Harley, Jr.'s registered Guernsey heifer, sponsored by Glen Ray, and Wayne's registered cow and calf were seen.

The delegation next was taken through A. B. Slagle's farm, where the proper seed bed preparation for alfalfa was observed, and alfalfa hay being cut, cured and baled with a pick-up baler. On a pasture where ladino clover and orchard grass were seeded this spring, the ground was covered with the runners of the ladino clover.

Van Raalte Will Start Operation Here On Monday

The Van Raalte company's operation in the Leach building on Main street will start Monday morning, it was learned this week when persons selected for employment were notified to report at that time. Meanwhile, mechanics Wednesday checked the machines in anticipation of the start Monday morning.

Original plans called for glove-making, but it was learned last week that the company has decided to use the small Leach building operation for hosiery repair. The first announcement said 25 to 30 women would be employed.

Dodson Will Talk At Meet On Wildlife

The newly-organized Macon County Wildlife club will hold its next meeting Thursday night, August 15, at 8 p. m. at the courthouse. President W. J. Blaine announced this week.

C. F. Dodson, of the faculty of Western Carolina Teachers college, Cullowhee, will be the speaker. Mr. Dodson recently addressed the wildlife club at Highlands.

Mr. Blaine expressed the hope that representatives from all parts of the county will attend the meeting. He emphasized that, while the new club has taken the name of the Macon County club, it will be glad to assist if other localities in the county wish to form their own clubs.

The club was organized July 12 with a membership of 28, and already it has more than 50 members, Mr. Blaine said. He added that it is hoped to have 150 members by the time of the meeting August 15. All members, he said, are being asked to bring at least two or three persons with them to hear the program of the organization explained.

There are new clubs in 96 of the state's 100 counties. A major objective of the organizations is to have a non-political wildlife agency of the state government set up, independent of the Department of Conservation and Development.

Commissioners Approve Repairs, Vote Polio Home Funds

The board of county commissioners, at its monthly meeting Monday, visited the county home, and approved repairs made to the building by Lester Southards, the keeper of the home. The repairs were in compliance with recommendations of the last grand jury, in its report.

The commissioners also voted an appropriation of \$1,000 for the orthopedic home to be built in Asheville jointly by 10 Western North Carolina counties for the treatment of infantile paralysis cases from this region.

\$160,000 SET ASIDE TO BUY FOREST LANDS

**Will Spend \$86,500 This
Year On Roads
Within Forest**

The Nantahala National Forest has been allotted \$160,000 to buy additional forest lands during the fiscal year 1946-47, it was disclosed this week as Nantahala rangers met with Forest officials here for their annual work plans conference.

It also was announced that the fund for road work within the forest has been boosted by approximately \$50,000.

This is the first time in several years that the forest has been given funds for acquisition, the purchase of forest lands having been halted during the war.

The Nantahala's road fund, which approximated \$36,000 last year, will be \$86,500 for the coming year. About 50 per cent of this sum is for maintenance of present roads, while the remaining 50 per cent is to be spent in opening up and building forest access roads, with a view to getting out more timber to expedite solution of the housing problem. This road-building program will mean money in the pockets of local people, it was pointed out, first, through the actual road building work, and second through the new and larger forest operations.

In announcing the Forest service's decision to resume acquisition of forest lands, it was explained that lands sought are those adapted to forest purposes and lying adjacent to the lands now owned by the Forest service.

R. M. Shook, 78, Dies At Bethel Home

Robert Martin (Bob) Shook, 78, well known business man, died at his home in the Bethel community, on the Franklin-Highlands highway, Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, following an illness of four months.

Mr. Shook was one of the leading Republicans of the county, and on several occasions ran on that ticket for the office of sheriff.

Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock at the Sugarfork Baptist church.

Surviving, in addition to his widow, are seven children, Lawson, Raleigh, Howard and Troy Shook, all of Macon county, and Mrs. Frank Peek, Mrs. Mattie Evans, and Mrs. Pearl Holland; three brothers, Henty Shook, Franklin, Route 2, Charlie Shook, of Tiger, Ga., and W. M. Shook, of Mount Airy; one sister, Mrs. Violet Wood, of Highlands.

The cucumber crop is said to be 36 per cent greater than the M35-39 average.

158 Attend 94th Annual Reunion Of Siler Family

Siler descendants, who have held an unbroken series of family reunions since the custom of meeting annually was inaugurated in the pre-Civil War years, gathered here 158 strong last Thursday for their 94th "family meeting", as the Siler kin always call it.

The meeting was held at "Dixie Hall", the old Robinson home on Main street, with Miss Hope Daniels and her brother, James, as hostess and host, and by the time the crowd, of all ages, gathered about the loaded picnic tables in the side yard, representatives from many states — from New York to California — were present.

At the outdoor business session in the afternoon, Chairman Carl S. Slagle and W. N. Sloan, acting secretary in the absence of James Gray, who was ill, took their place at a table, flanked by the family's service flag with more than 100 stars on it.

The session opened with the traditional singing of "Blest Be the Tie That Binds", after which Mrs. George A. Jones and

Highlands Youth Marries English Girl By 'Phone

The first "telephone" wedding in this section between an ex-service man and his English fiancée was that of Richard W. Pearson, of Highlands, and Miss Thelma Heywood, of Birmingham, England. The vows were carried by cable back and forth across the sea at 10 o'clock on the morning of August 2, from the home of the Rev. and Mrs. A. G. Garr, ministers, at Charlotte, binding the two in wedlock "for so long as they both shall live."

Mrs. Garr officiated over an upstairs telephone, while Mr. Garr sang "I Love You Truly", accompanied by Mrs. Oliver Stroud, pianist. Over the downstairs phone Richard talked with his bride-to-be and the two took the marriage vows.

The object of the trans-Atlantic marriage was to give his wife a priority for coming to this country, "when the ceremony can be performed all over again, if she likes", Mr. Pearson said.

The bridegroom is the son of Mrs. A. R. Nall of Highlands, and of the late William Pearson, of Chicago, Ill., and is a graduate of the North Carolina State college.

SEEK FUND FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The board of stewards of the Franklin Methodist church, this week announced that it will sponsor a movement to raise a \$5,000 Brevard college scholarship fund, the scholarships to be available to Macon County boys and girls.

The project is a part of the Methodist College Advance movement, under which North Carolina Methodists are seeking \$2,000,000 for the denomination's colleges in this state.

Brevard college is the only institution owned and operated entirely by the Western North Carolina Methodist conference. A total of \$600,000 is being sought for the institution—a junior college—and churches in the Waynesville district are engaged in a campaign to raise \$56,000 as their share.

It is pointed out that many Macon County students have attended Brevard college in the 12 years since it was established, and that perhaps even more worthy boys and girls in this county might have attended that school had they had financial assistance.

While the income from a \$5,000 scholarship fund will, of course, vary, according to the interest rate, the annual scholarship from the fund will amount to between \$150 and \$300, church officials said.

When the fund is raised, the college's board of trustees will be asked to set it up as a part of the endowment resources of the college, with the definite stipulation that the annual income will be used for scholarship aid to the young people in Macon County who wish to attend Brevard college.

ORDERS LOVE, REESE HOUSES HERE CLOSED

**Town Board Appropriates
Funds For Library,
Employs Baird**

The Franklin board of aldermen, at its meeting Monday night, condemned two dwellings as unfit for human habitation and ordered them padlocked, appropriated \$200 to the public library here, and voted to employ C. D. Baird as night policeman.

The houses condemned are the old Reese house on Iotla street and the old Love house, which was moved a few years ago to a point just off the square, next door to the Franklin laundry.

The action of the board followed appearance before the board of Miss Maud Hudson and Mrs. Marsh Officer, of Iotla street, who complained of the odor from the Reese house, and the reading of a letter from the State Board of Health ordering the owner of the old Love house to have it vacated by August 7. The letter pointed out that it is occupied by two families, a total of 20 persons, and that it has no sanitary facilities. The board ordered the house closed when it is vacated, and the Reese house, which it was informed is unoccupied now, closed immediately. The latter house, which has been considered by the board previously, has sanitary facilities but no water connections, it was pointed out.

The board's action on the library appropriation came after Mrs. Frank I. Murray, the librarian, presented a letter from the State Library commission informing her that the \$1,800 annual grant of the commission would be discontinued unless the local government units appropriate as much as last year. The town last year appropriated \$200, and the county both this year and last put \$500 for the library into its budget.

Mr. Baird, former policeman here, went to work for the town Thursday morning. For the next two weeks, he will serve in the daytime while Chief Homer Cochran is on vacation, and then will succeed James Stewart, recently employed as night policeman.

It was brought out in the discussion of Mr. Baird's application for the position, that, several years ago, he suffered a broken leg while serving as policeman; was promised his position back when he recovered; and, after a long confinement, entered the armed forces. The town was morally obligated to give him the position, the aldermen agreed. His salary will be that paid in the past, \$200 per month.

The board also: Ordered 300 feet of fire hose bought for the fire department.

And took action to remedy the flood situation that occurs at the foot of the hill on West Main street with every heavy rain. Frank I. Murray, who appeared before the board to report that his basement is regularly flooded, was assured that new, larger pipe will be installed, if the pipe is obtainable, to carry off the surface water, and that temporary measures will be taken if the pipe is not now available.

Discussion

A small group of interested citizens, meeting Tuesday evening at the call of Mrs. Reby S. Tessier, took the initial steps toward the formation of a discussion club here, and called an organization meet for Friday, August 16, at 8 p. m. at the Episcopal rectory.

The club, for both men and women, will have as its major purposes the discussion of current national and international events and problems, with a view to aiding the members in keeping informed, and to giving members the benefit of an exchange of views.

At the meeting Friday of next week, it was announced, there will be a speaker and general discussion of a topic, yet to be announced, as well as the business of perfecting a permanent organization.

All interested persons are invited to attend and become charter members of the club.