

# The Franklin Press

and  
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## MISS M. SCOTT, ASSISTANT HOME AGENT, RESIGNS

Will Go To Avery Post;  
Wayne Franklin Named  
Avery County Agent

Miss Marie Scott, home demonstration agent here for the past year and a half, has resigned to accept a promotion to the position of home agent in Avery county. The resignation of Miss Scott, a native of this county, is effective January 1.

At the same time it was announced that Wayne Franklin, another Macon County native, has been appointed county farm agent in Avery, starting the first of the year. Thus Macon County is furnishing the extension staff for Avery.

Miss Scott's work here has been chiefly with members of the county's 4-H clubs. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Scott of Bidwell street she was born and reared in Franklin. She was graduated from Brevard college and Maryville college at Maryville, Tenn., receiving the B. S. degree in home economics from the latter institution. In the summer of 1944 she did graduate work at the Woman's college of the University of North Carolina.

After a year's teaching at Fontana Dam, she taught vocational home economics at Old Fort until she came to Franklin as assistant home agent in the summer of 1945.

Mr. Franklin goes to Avery as county agent from work in Buncombe. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Franklin, of Franklin, Route 4. A graduate of N. C. State college, he worked with the Farm Security Administration before entering the extension service. He served as assistant county agent in Cherokee and Haywood counties until he joined the marine corps. Since his discharge, he has been in Buncombe county as assistant TVA farm agent.

## Veterans New Farm Class To Start Jan. 1st

The farm veterans' program, which is under the supervision of the Franklin High school vocational department, will start a new class January 1, it was announced this week by E. J. Whitmire, vocational teacher.

Veterans who are living on the farm, and are interested in the farm program, should report to the Vocational building between the hours of 1 and 2 o'clock any week day, except during Christmas week. They must register by January 1, in order to start training at that date. The third class will not be started until April 1.

The veteran must be employed full-time on the farm and be willing to put in practice recommendations from his supervisor on soil conservation, and building and pasture improvement. No veteran need apply for training unless he is willing to carry out improved practices.

Sixty-six veterans have been receiving training since last spring. Many of these men have purchased farms and are getting established in farming. Six men have been dropped from the program since there was not sufficient evidence of farming.

A man who is interested should have a copy of his discharge made; if married, a copy of his marriage certificate; and if there are any children, copies of their birth certificates. No original certificates will be accepted.

But the first step is to report to the Vocational building during the designated hours and give location of the farm, so it can be checked.

The veterans' farm program is under the supervision of Mr. Whitmire, the agriculture teacher Oscar Ledford and Siler Slagle as assistants, and Tom Fagg as part-time assistant.

Mrs. G. Merritt Preston and daughter, Lee, of Cleveland, Ohio, arrived here Wednesday for a visit with Mrs. Preston's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Conley at their home on Harrison avenue.

# The Meaning of Christmas

Although the Christmas card custom is only a little over one hundred years old, the symbols we find on the cards each year are rich in traditions as old as Christmas itself.....



**HOLLY**..... ON CHRISTMAS EVE, ENGLISH MAIDENS ADORNED THEIR BEDS WITH HOLLY TO KEEP GOBLINS AWAY. AND SINCE BEES WERE SAID TO HUM CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS TIME, CHILDREN PLACED HOLLY ON THE HIVES TO WISH THE BEES A "MERRY CHRISTMAS!"

**MISTLETOE**..... IN NORTHERN COUNTRIES, IF ENEMIES MET BENEATH MISTLETOE IN THE FOREST THEY LAID DOWN ARMS AND CALLED A DAY'S TRUCE. LATER, MISTLETOE WAS HUNG OVER DOORWAYS AT CHRISTMAS, PLEDGING THOSE WHO ENTERED TO KEEP FRIENDSHIP AND PEACE

**CANDLES**..... AT CHRISTMAS, ENGLISH FARMERS USED TO LIGHT CANDLES AND PRAY GOD TO BLESS THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR FIELDS AND THEIR LIVESTOCK. AND CANDLE-MAKERS PRESENTED THEIR CUSTOMERS WITH FREE CANDLES, BY WAY OF WISHING THEM A "MERRY CHRISTMAS"

**CAROLS**..... ORIGINALLY A CAROL WAS A DANCE AND, LATER A DRINKING SONG. IN ENGLAND, WANDERING MUSICIANS BEGAN THE CUSTOM OF SINGING CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS BY GOING FROM DOOR TO DOOR AND, IN SONG, WISHING FOLKS HOLIDAY CHEER, GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS.

**BELLS**..... IN EUROPE IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE DEVIL DIED WHEN CHRIST WAS BORN; SO FOR AN HOUR BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON CHRISTMAS EVE BELLS WOULD TOLL THE DEVIL'S DEATH KNELL. AT MIDNIGHT IT CHANGED TO A JOYOUS PEAL, THE BELLS RINGING OUT A "JOYFUL, MERRY CHRISTMAS"

AND SO THE CHRISTMAS CARDS WE SEND ARE MORE THAN GREETINGS --- THEY ARE AN EXPRESSION OF FRIENDSHIP, A BLESSING, A WISH THAT OTHERS MAY SHARE WITH US THE HAPPINESS OF THE YULETIDE..... THEY ARE OUR WAY OF PERPETUATING THE SPIRIT WHICH CHRISTMAS REPRESENTS.

## W. C. Ledbetter Injured When Hit By School Bus

W. C. Ledbetter, 70, of Franklin, Route 2, was struck by a school bus near his home Thursday morning. He was brought to the Angel hospital where attendants reported his condition as serious. He suffered a severe cut on the forehead and a concussion.

## RECOVER \$1,900 OF CASH TAKEN FROM COCHRAN

Flats Merchant Critically Injured By Blows; Martin In Jail

Weaver W. Cochran, 44, is in a critical condition at the Rhoda-van Gordon clinic in Andrews, and Carl Thomas Martin, 24, is in jail in Bryson City, held without bond, following the hammer assault-robbery of Mr. Cochran at his general store in the Flats community last Thursday about 6 p. m.

Martin has confessed that he struck the Flats merchant on the head with a hammer and robbed him of \$2,100 in cash and an undetermined amount in checks. Patrolman Pritchard Smith, Jr., one of the investigating officers, said.

All of the cash, except \$800 which Martin said he had spent, has been recovered, Mr. Smith said.

Mr. Cochran had closed his store, Mrs. Cochran told the officers, when a man came to their home next door and asked to buy some merchandise. When her husband, who accompanied the man into the store, did not return, she called him and received no answer. She went for a neighbor, and when they entered the store, they found him lying on the floor in a pool of blood.

Martin, formerly of the Flats community, but who recently had lived in Asheville, Spartanburg, and Gastonia, was arrested at 4 a. m. Saturday at the home of his mother-in-law, Mrs. W. C. Bond, in Lula, Ga. The arresting officers were Mr. Smith, Sheriff J. P. Bradley, and Trooper Miller of the Georgia highway police.

Martin had gone to Flats Wednesday and spent that night at the home of his grandmother, Mrs. Martin. When he left the community late Thursday, he left word with her to forward his bag to him when he wrote her where he would be. Officers learned of this, broke open the bag, and obtained their first clue as to his probable location when they found in the bag a letter from Martin's wife, written from Lula.

When they made the arrest Mr. Smith said, the officers intercepted Mrs. Martin as she attempted to leave the house. She had \$1,300 in cash, all in bills of \$50 and \$100. Martin later told the officers that he had thrown Mr. Cochran's billfold down beside the road, after taking the \$2,100 from it. The officers recovered the billfold, and found an additional \$600 in it, in another compartment, overlooked by the robber in his haste.

Mr. Cochran, who suffered several skull fractures from the hammer blows, is reported to be gradually regaining consciousness, and physicians believe his condition is somewhat improved. Martin was first brought to the jail here, but later Saturday was taken to Bryson City for safe-keeping.

## CUBA CLUB TO HOLD BAZAAR ON SATURDAY

The Cuba club, a Spanish class at the Franklin High school, will hold a bazaar Saturday morning from 10 to 12 o'clock in the office of the Nantahala Power and Light company. A variety of articles suitable for Christmas gifts will be on sale. They ask that patrons come early before the articles are picked over.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Cook, who have been operating a hotel at Eatonton, Ga., for a number of years, have moved to Franklin, where they formerly operated the H. T. Sloan house on West Main street. Mrs. Cook is the former Miss Nancy Kinnebrew. Her sister, Miss Harriette Kinnebrew, is here to spend the holidays with the Cooks.

## YULE PROGRAMS PLANNED HERE FOR HOLIDAYS

Cantata, Church Services,  
Veterans' Ceremony  
Scheduled

Special services in the churches, a war veterans' program, Sunday school Christmas trees, plays, and parties, and family gatherings will feature the observance of the Christmas season in this community.

The choirs of the four Franklin churches will present a Christmas cantata Sunday night at 7:30 at the Methodist church, and three of the four churches will stress the Christmas theme in music and sermons Sunday morning. The fourth—St. Agnes Episcopal—will hold a midnight service, as has been its custom.

At 3 o'clock on Christmas eve the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars will join hands to present a program before a decorated Christmas tree on the public square. Following a talk by the Rev. B. Hoyt Evans, Presbyterian pastor, and Christmas carols, the two organizations will place wreaths on the crosses bearing the names of Macon County war dead, while a huge wreath will be placed in the center of the plot.

The cantata, "The Music of Bethlehem," by Fred R. Bolton, will be directed by Mrs. Louis B. Manning, with Mrs. Henry W. Cobe at the organ and Mrs. Gilmer A. Jones at the piano. Mrs. R. S. Jones will give several readings. The program follows:

"Ring on, O Song", choirs; "A King Shall Reign", Men's chorus and choir; "The Song of Hope", quartet, composed of Mrs. Earl Harmon, Mrs. Neil Johnston, Phil McCollum and Sam W. Mendenhall; reading by Mrs. Richard S. Jones.

"The First Christmas Carol," duet by Miss Virginia Bryant and Mrs. Lucille C. Lassiter; "O, Holy Night", choirs; "To Bethlehem Draw Near", choirs; Reading by Mrs. Jones; "Let Heaven and Nature Sing", choirs "The Lullaby Hymn", reading by Mrs. Jones.

"The Music of the Bells", choirs with soprano obligato by Mrs. Louis Manning; "The March of the Magi", Men's chorus and choir; "Hallelujah", choirs; and "The Music of Bethlehem", choirs.

The midnight service at St. Agnes church, to which the public is invited, will open at 11:30 o'clock Tuesday night. The service, conducted by the rector, the Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, will be marked by the singing of carols and celebration of communion.

Other Episcopal services planned by Mr. Morgan in this county include a Sunday school Christmas tree at the Highlands church at 5 p. m. Tuesday; communion at St. Cyprian's (Negro) church at 8 a. m. Christmas day; and communion at Highlands at 10 a. m.

The children of the Franklin Methodist Sunday school will present a Christmas program Monday night at 7:30 at the church, under the supervision of Mrs. C. N. Dowdle, Mrs. M. A. Perce, Mrs. H. A. Wilhide, Mrs. R. S. Jones, and Mrs. James Cunningham. Pantomime dramatization of Bible stories, with a background of Christmas music, will feature the program.

At 10 a. m. Sunday morning a Christmas tree will be held for the Methodist primary department, Mrs. Zeb Conley, superintendent, announced.

## Higdonville Quint Loses To Webster

The Higdonville High school's basketball team met defeat at the hands of the strong Webster quint on the Sylva court Wednesday night, by a score of 18 to 16.

Higdonville's second string fared better, defeating Webster's second team the same night, 17 to 4.

Higdonville will play Sylva Monday night.

Mrs. Pearl Corbin, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Pat Holcomb, and Mr. Holcomb at their home in Klamath Falls, Ore., for the past three months, returned to Franklin this week and is spending some time with her father, James L. Higdon, at his home in the Cullasaja community.

## Houk Installed As New Master Of Junaluskee Lodge

Guy L. Houk was installed as worshipful master of Junaluskee lodge, A. F. and A. M., at the lodge meeting Tuesday night.

Others who took office at the same time are Earl Ward, senior warden; R. S. O'Mohundro, junior warden; H. W. Cobe, treasurer; and Claude Bolton, secretary.

The new worshipful master appointed the following:

B. L. McGlamery, senior deacon; J. Ward Long, junior deacon; Ebb Bullock, senior steward; Ernest Hyde, junior steward; James Dryman, tiler; and C. Gordon Moore, chaplain.

The condition of W. M. Edwards, of Franklin, Route 3, who has been critically ill at his home for several days, was reported to be unimproved Wednesday night.

## Negro Spirituals To Be Heard At Legion Meeting

At the monthly meeting of the American Legion Saturday night, December 21, at 7:30 o'clock at the Legion hall, the Macon County Spiritual singers will give a Christmas program.

## Yule Program Planned Sunday Night At Asbury

A Christmas program will be given at the Asbury Methodist church, with the singing of Christmas carols and other special Christmas music, Sunday night at 8 o'clock, it has been announced by Mrs. M. D. Hoover. The public is invited to attend.

G. R. Henson, who has been a patient at the Angel hospital since October 31, suffering from a broken and mangled right arm, received in a motor accident, has recovered sufficiently to be returned to his home, Franklin, Route 2.

## Contest At Sylva Is Won By Franklin Group Of FFA Boys

A team representing the Franklin Future Farmers won the ritual and parliamentary procedure contest held at Sylva Wednesday of last week, and, by virtue of winning, is entitled to enter the district contest at Asheville in April.

The Franklin group competed against two teams from Haywood county, a team from Swain county, and one from Graham.

The Franklin team was made up of Hayes Gregory, George Crawford, Bobby Tippet, Hoyt Bryson, and Lewis Penland, with E. J. Whitmire as adviser.

James Penn, who is an employe of a subsidiary of the Aluminum Company of America, located in New Kensington, Pa., is spending two weeks with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Penn, at their home on West Main street.