

# The Franklin Press.

VOLUME XL

FRANKLIN, N. C., FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1925

NUMBER THIRTY-THREE

## TRUETT-M'CONNELL MEETING DRAWS IMMENSE CROWD

### Accommodations in Town and Adjacent Country are Limited—Every Effort to Be Made to Care For All Visitors.

Dr. F. C. McConnell arrived at Franklin Thursday evening preparatory to conducting services from August 14 to 23 inclusive in the great tabernacle just off the Georgia road in the southern outskirts of Franklin. Dr. Geo. W. Truett will arrive today. While here Dr. Truett will be the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Trotter while Dr. McConnell will stay at the home of his brother, Mr. S. E. McConnell on Bonny Crest.

Rev. A. J. Smith, pastor of the local Baptist church, after months of preparation, has everything in readiness for the greatest religious meeting in the history of Franklin. His untiring efforts to provide for the comfort and welfare of the thousands of visitors who will come to hear these two eminent divines have been an inspiration to Franklin and particularly to the members of the Baptist church. The members of Rev. Smith's church have loyally supported him in this great undertaking. In fact the entire population of Franklin regardless of creed, have lent him encouragement and support.

The housing accommodations in Franklin and at nearby farm houses are taxed almost to the limit. Should others come to stay during the entire meeting every effort will be made to find them places to sleep and to eat. The great tabernacle erected under the supervision of Rev. A. J. Smith will seat approximately 4000 people. As we go to press indications point to capacity audiences at the morning and evening services. Dr. McConnell will preach at 11 A. M. and Dr. Truett at 8 P. M.

A parking committee will have charge of traffic at the tabernacle. This committee has made definite plans to handle the hundreds of cars that will be in evidence at the meeting. A committee on hospital care has also been appointed. Mr. Fred Higdon, chairman of this committee and will make his headquarters near the tabernacle. Those with no room reservations should report to Mr. Higdon near the tabernacle for assignment to rooms. The local troops of the boy scouts will be on hand to conduct visitors to the homes or hotels to which they have been assigned.

Visitors coming by auto from the west are advised to come to Franklin by way of Bryson City as the road between Franklin and Dillsboro is under construction. The trip by Bryson City will lengthen the journey by less than an hour.

Franklin's business houses will be closed during the meeting from 10:30 A. M. to 12 noon, excepting Saturdays. There will be a trained nurse in charge of the ladies rest room.

A section of the tabernacle will be reserved for colored people.

Dr. and Mrs. Truett were accompanied by their daughter, Miss Annie Salee. Two other daughters from Lynchburg, Va., are also here with their parents—Mrs. Marion Truett Gillian and Mrs. Jesse Truett Jones whose husband is pastor of the First Baptist church at Lynchburg.

Below is a letter that is being sent out by Rev. A. J. Smith:

Dear Friend:—The days are near at hand for the beginning of the Truett-McConnell meeting at Franklin, N. C. Much publicity has been given to the

meeting and yet I find many questions being asked. I am sending therefore, this letter of general information to as many as possible in all sections. Some of it you know, possibly all of it. I shall be glad if you will read it for your own information and that you may give the information to others. If you know of someone who wishes to know will you tell them or pass the letter on to them.

#### Services

Date, August 14 to 23. Place Franklin, N. C.

Meeting to be held in tabernacle seating 4000 with room for twice that number in dense shade in good hearing distance.

Meeting begins Friday morning, August 14 at eleven o'clock.

Dr. F. C. McConnell preaches each morning at eleven o'clock.

Dr. Geo. W. Truett preaches each evening at eight o'clock.

Probably three services on Sunday—Dr. Truett preaching morning and night, Dr. McConnell preaching afternoon. Announcement to be made later.

#### Accommodations

Information bureau on grounds. Reservations can be made here. Mr. Fred Higdon in charge. Correspondence concerning reservations previous to meeting should be addressed to him or the pastor, A. J. Smith.

Pilots to homes, hotels or camping sites.

A good number of homes prepared to take roomers, some free and others at very reasonable prices.

Beautiful camping sites. We urge as many as possible to avail themselves of these camp sites. They are near at hand.

Ample parking space near tabernacle—careful supervision.

Any sick or crippled or old people will be permitted to enter grounds with car that they will not have to walk. Privileges granted by chief parking officers. All other cars will be parked from 100 to 300 yards from tabernacle.

Ladies rest room on grounds.

Free ice water on grounds.

Lunch stand near at hand. Under church supervision but not run by the church. (We have nothing to sell.)

#### Roads

New concrete highway to Georgia state line. Open all the way.

Highway to Bryson City connecting with No. 10 good all the way.

Highway to Dillsboro connecting with No. 10 partly under construction. Detours at each end fairly good. Only 30 minutes longer to drive by way of Bryson City over fine roads all the way.

Two trains daily on Tallulah Falls Railroad connecting with main line of Southern at Cornelia, Ga. Arrive at Franklin 1:30 and 6:00 P. M.

All northeast Georgia roads good. Yours truly, A. J. SMITH, Pastor, Franklin Baptist Church.

#### Elected to Tailors' Guild

W. S. Davis of Highlands has been elected to membership in the Born Tailors' Guild, a national association of master tailors, according to word from the headquarters of the organization in Chicago.

#### GEORGIA ROAD OPEN

The concrete highway from Franklin to the Georgia line was open to through traffic last Tuesday. Those new desiring to reach Franklin from the south will have no detours in North Carolina.

### SILER FAMILY HOLDS REUNION

Approximately 200 Present At 74th Reunion—A Few From the Far West—Table Loaded.

On August 6th at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Sloan in East Franklin was held the 74th Reunion of the prominent Siler family of Macon county. Each year for 74 years this family has assembled at the home of one of its members in Macon county to renew acquaintanceship and to exchange reminiscences of the days that have passed. As the years have gone by many members of the family have passed over the river while others have moved to distant places. But as the time for the annual reunion approaches those who are living and who can possibly do so journey back to the scenes of their childhood to take part in these historic events.

Since these reunions began, the family has maintained an efficient organization, including a president, secretary and other necessary officials. Mr. T. R. Gray, of Ellijay, has been secretary for 53 years and his predecessor held this office for 21 years.

From time to time a history of the Siler family is published and distributed among its various members. The latest edition of this history is now in the hands of the printer and will soon be ready for distribution.

At the last reunion there were approximately 200 members of the Siler family present and about 30 guests among whom were Rev. E. J. Pipes, Rev. and Mrs. J. Q. Wallace, Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Smith, Major and Mrs. S. A. Harris and others.

Those of the Siler family who journeyed from far places to be present were Miss Ethel Siler of Randoe, Wash., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Judson Siler, Miss Louise Siler, also of Randoe and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Siler; Mrs. Ellen Green of Lancaster, Texas, daughter of the late Captain and Mrs. T. T. Siler and her niece, Miss Mildred Mitchell also of Lancaster; Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Roane and son, Sam, of Whittier; Mr. Lyle Jones and family of Asheville, and others whose names the reporter did not obtain.

Two long tables placed on the lawn under a spreading maple tree were loaded with good things to eat. There were many evidences to the effect that the guests and members of the Siler family had been making preparations for this meal by fasting for several days. After an hour's session at the tables the regular business and social meeting of the family was held. At this meeting those who have married into the Siler family since the previous reunion are required to make a speech. Last year Mr. Will Higdon by some hook or crook got relieved from making his speech. This year he again got cold feet and left before the speech making hour arrived. During the meeting many telegrams from absent members were received. One from Miss Harriet Kennibrew who is chairman of the old maid committee read as follows: "Too busy hunting a man to attend reunion."

As the shadows of evening approached the reunion adjourned to meet again next year.

All present, including the guests who were honored by being invited, expressed themselves as thoroughly enjoying the reunion.

#### CAR WRECK

A big Hudson touring car evidently used as a taxi with headquarters at Canton was wrecked about 3:00 o'clock Wednesday morning at the east end of the Little Tennessee bridge in Franklin. The car hit the concrete bridge guard and turned turtle, landing in a ditch near the road. Those who have never seen a complete wreck ought to view the remains of this taxi. The occupant or occupants of the car disappeared and the authorities here have been unable to learn their names.

### JR. ORDED ORPHAN HOME CORNERSTONE

Cornerstone for the branch orphan's home now being erected by the Junior Order of North Carolina at Lexington, N. C., will be laid Wednesday afternoon, August 19th, at 2:30 o'clock according to the program which has just been announced. The event promises to be one of the most important and largely attended in the history of the Order in this state. Attended by members of the National Council, who will take an active part in the exercises, and by hundreds of Juniors from all sections of the Old North State, the event will be one of more than passing interest and significance.

### Geological Party Passes Through Franklin

A party from the University, State College, Elon and Davidson passed through Franklin last Friday studying the geological formation of Western North Carolina, mines, soil, etc. The party was in charge of Dr. W. F. Prouty of the University. Profs. W. L. Porter of Davidson, W. B. Cobb of N. C. State and T. E. Powell of Elon were also making the trip as specialists in their respective studies. Under the leadership of these professors the following named students from the various colleges mentioned were receiving practical instruction in the studies scheduled for the trip: Fred Prouty, I. L. Martin, H. M. Holmes, S. D. Shearer, J. P. Pretlow, E. L. Wilcox, J. A. Whitaker, J. N. Whitely, R. A. Reid, W. B. Jones and H. S. Pendergraft.

This party of fifteen were traveling in a large touring car and a bus with a camping outfit. They were behind schedule three or four days and left late in the afternoon for Murphy.

Dr. Prouty and Prof. Cobb expressed their delight at being in Franklin and regretted that lack of time prevented their remaining here for an indefinite stay. However they plan to return next year and spend some weeks studying the mines and soils of Macon.

### Parker is Wondering

Last Saturday Mr. Jim Rogers approached Mr. Parker Moore and ask for 50 cents contribution to be used to work out the garden of a poor family who lives near town. Mr. Moore gladly contributed and commended Mr. Rogers for his interest in the welfare of the needy family. When Mr. Moore arrived at his home for dinner he found a man hoeing out his (Moore's) garden. When Mr. Moore asked the man who put him to work there the man replied that Mr. Jim Rogers had given him 50 cents to get rid of the weeds in that particular garden.

### The Bible Institute Held at Highlands

During the last week, beginning with a union service on Sunday night, August 2, Highlands has enjoyed a wonderful and unique spiritual experience in the shape of a Bible Institute conducted by Mrs. Dora C. Perkins, graduate of the Moody Institute at Chicago.

Mrs. Perkins came to us by special invitation from the Community Club, an organization that has recently come into existence, having at its basic object the uplift of Highlands in its community interests. We are glad to note that this club recognizes the great need for spiritual enlightenment as well as mental and physical training and we are sure that all who took advantage of the remarkable series of Bible studies that Mrs. Perkins so ably and beautifully gave us will agree that the club made no mistake in its selection of a teacher. We may perhaps be able to recall only a few of the words spoken by Mrs. Perkins but we can never forget her devotion, strong faith, and firm belief in "the word of God which is able to make us wise unto salvation."

Many of us were filled with a desire to study our Bible and learn more of the love of God that is past understanding that it could make such a great and sacrificial plan of salvation.

To some, it was a revelation that Christ, in the words of Mrs. Perkins, "ran as a silver thread throughout the entire Bible." Because we have not been able to trace Him in the Old Testament but have considered it as a mere matter of history and therefore dull and uninteresting, that particular part of the Bible has been sadly neglected. However, after listening to Mrs. Perkins who at no time departed from the Word, being able to quote passage after passage in proof of her statements we saw Christ in the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

If time and space would only allow we might go on telling of this remarkable week filled as it has been with such rich blessings, but we can only say in closing that we pray God's richest blessing upon this gifted teacher and that she may be spared a long and useful life in the service of the Master.

To the Community Club in general and Mrs. S. T. Marett and Miss Harry in particular we extend thanks for the great treat that they have made it possible for us to enjoy. How we hope that their plans for a longer institute may materialize next summer.

### Town Offers to Buy Lines

Last Tuesday the town board passed a resolution offering to buy the lines of the Franklin Light & Power company at a price set by an expert appraiser, this appraiser to be mutually agreeable to both town and the company. The resolution granted the Franklin Light & Power company 48 hours from 12 o'clock Tuesday night to accept or reject the offer. There now appears to be no possibility that the town board will agree to sell current to the Franklin Light & Power company for distribution to the citizens of the town. In the event that the company rejects the offer of the town the board will doubtless build municipal lines on the streets of Franklin.



DR. GEORGE W. TRUETT



DR. F. C. McCONNELL