



# The Franklin Press

VOLUME XXI.

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1926

NUMBER FORTY-THREE

## ALLEY, OPENING CAMPAIGN, HITS CENTRALIZATION

### Big Crowd Hears Waynesville Man Launch Democratic Campaign—Tribute To N. C. Hills.

Speaking before what is declared to have been the most largely attended political gathering in Macon county since the days of Aycock, Felix E. Alley, of Waynesville, Saturday afternoon, opened the Democratic campaign in this county with a rousing speech. The address, combining logical argument, humor and oratorical effects, was a typical Alley speech.

Mr. Alley declared "centralization of power in our government at Washington" to be the "greatest danger that confronts our Republic today" and the paramount issue of the campaign. Unless government in this country is decentralized, he declared, this nation faces the fate of other republics which have allowed centralization to become entrenched. As instances of his contention that centralization, once it takes its hold, will utterly destroy a nation, the speaker cited the cases of the Jewish, Greek, and Roman nations.

"Then shall we, the inhabitants of the greatest Republic of all time, shrink back affrighted and appalled because the great lessons of uniform history come to us with a voice of solemn and prophetic warning? Shall the universal experience of mankind bring us no wisdom? Shall we wrap ourselves in sweet delusion and lie down to pleasant dreams when we know by every chart of navigation that the fatal storm is just at hand? Will the proud and daring people of this great land close their eyes and ears against the teachings of the ages and wait for fetters and chains to convince them that their liberties are in danger?"

"It is a truism of history that the greed for gold, the lust for gain, the thirst for power, blind men to their danger and drive them on to their doom. Let it be hoped that our people will see and understand their danger and avert it before their hands are tied and their throats are cut."

The "remedy," the speaker declared to be the restoration "of the Democratic party to power; drive out from our government at Washington the last vestige of centralized power and give back to the States the rights reserved under the Constitution of the United States."

Then will follow, Mr. Alley asserted, "the prosperity and justice that prevailed under Wilson's administration." Mr. Alley, born in the mountains of Western North Carolina, paid a beautiful tribute to his native hills, which he declared were created by the Almighty in a desire "to provide an absolutely perfect habitation for his chosen people."

The speaker, in a description of Whiteside Mountain, said he had stood there at daybreak and "looked toward the East and watched the sombre drapery of the clouds roll up like a scroll from the rim of the horizon, as the red torch of the morning kindled on the stainless crests of a thousand hills a line of crimson fires and sent forth ten thousand shafts of light to herald the coming of the coming of the God of Day;" at dusk and seen "the evening hang her silver crescent on the brow of night and rival the splendor of the dawn with the glory of the twilight;" at midnight in the winter and "listened sorrowfully to the sea-laden winds as they sighed through the dismantled forests, and watched the snowfields gleaming in the moonlight like foam-flecked billows in a stormy sea;" and at mid-day in summer "when the lightning cleaved the sky with forked flame and the very earth trembled beneath the angry roar of the musketry of the winds and the artillery of the skies."

It was in the belief that this mountain country was not only the most beautiful in the world, but the land of promise, Mr. Alley said, that he decided to become a candidate for the Democratic nomination for Congress. On this connection he expressed his deep appreciation for the thousands of votes he had received in the June primary, and when he declared that, not chosen to lead in the tenth district, he stood ready still to fight for the party as a "private in the ranks," Mr. Alley was greeted with a tremendous burst of applause.

## Highlands—A Town Unique

Franklin is fortunate in having as its neighbor a little city entirely unique.

Macon county has in its county seat the natural "Key City of the Mountains," and in Highlands, the highest incorporated town in Eastern America.

Thirty-eight hundred twenty-three feet is Highland's official altitude. It is that far above the level of the sea at the center of town. But many homes in the incorporation are 4,000 feet and more. The altitude of 3823 is that of the business section, which is one of the "low" points in the town. Dillard, the nearest railroad point, 18 miles away, is 2250 feet, or just about 1600 feet lower.

But Highlands is unusual not only because of its distinction as being the highest town east of the Rockies—though that would seem to be distinction enough for one small town, when there are so many thousands with none at all. The grandeur of its mountain scenery sets it apart as a town unique.

It is possible that there is scenery in Western North Carolina comparable with that of the Highlands country; but certain it is that no other town has the number of magnificent mountain panoramas within a few miles. A few minutes' drive from Highlands, in almost any direction, and one goes up, up, up,—hundreds of feet above this highest town—to view the glory of some new scenic effect built by the master hand of Nature.

Highlands, again, is in a class of its own among small towns in the number of remarkably beautiful homes. Many wealthy people from New Orleans, Savannah, New York, and elsewhere have visited Highlands, and then returned to build summer homes; and many of these homes are such as one would find in few of the smaller cities.

Two such are the Eskrigge home, on the side of Satulah Mountain, built of native gray stone, in the English style of architecture; and the Sloan estate. The latter, lacking the commanding view of the mountains and the architectural beauty of the Eskrigge residence, is justly noted for the extraordinary beauty of its grounds. In addition to its tremendous, sloping lawn, its flower-bordered walks, its sunken garden, and other charms, it has the distinction of having a greater variety of shrubs and flowering plants than any private estate south of Washington.

And these are but two of the many estates in and around Highlands.

But the human element is partly responsible for the fact that Highlands is extraordinary. It is unusual in the public spirit and enterprise manifest on every hand.

A few random examples: Highlands had raised and mailed its subscription of \$187 for the Red Cross Florida relief fund within a few days after word of the storm disaster had reached the little mountain community; Highlands

has a public school building that would do credit to any town double its size; that building, which serves as town hall and community center, is used several evenings each week for a community picture show, the profits going toward beautification of the school grounds; the town has a good public library; Highlands had a Woman's Club—the Highlands Improvement Society—before many other Western North Carolina towns knew there was such a thing, and that club has been doing community betterment for a quarter of a century, and is doing bigger things all the time.

Those are but a few of the manifestations of public spirit impressed upon the visitor casually looking about the town. There are others, and to spare.

If Franklin believes it is the only town in Macon county that has caught the spirit of progress; that the progressive spirit at work here during recent years has failed to find a response in its neighbor, it is quite mistaken.

Last fall, Highlands put in a water system; sewerage was installed during the past spring, and now work is under way on the construction of a hydro-electric development, to be municipally owned and operated. All this in the space of a single year!

The Cullasaja River is to be dammed, and the power converted into electricity to light Highlands. The dam, when completed, will be approximately 175 feet long—built in a curve—and 25 feet high. It will have a head of 220 feet; that is, the vertical distance from the top of the dam to the power house will be 220 feet.

The completed dam will create a 75-acre lake—but not Highland's first! Three other lakes in or near the town already combine with the beauties of the mountains those of the water.

The power plant and the dam are being constructed by Tucker and Laxton, of Charlotte. For the dam, sand from Columbia, S. C., is being shipped to Seneca, and hauled by truck from that point to Highlands, a distance of some 40 miles.

To reach Highlands from Franklin today, one not only has to go outside the State; one goes into Georgia and back into North Carolina three different times—to reach another town in the same county as Franklin! The route is via Dillard, Ga., and between that point and Highlands the road crosses the North Carolina-Georgia State line five different times.

The road is being much improved by the Forest Service, but is none too good as yet, and Highlands people are looking forward quite as happily as does Franklin to the completion of Highway No. 28.

When No. 28 is finished, Franklin will have in Highlands a close neighbor, and not only a neighboring little city that is both friendly and progressive, but a nearby town that is entirely unique.

## MINING CONCERN WILL USE 60 HP

The refining plant of the Franklin Mineral Products Company, located near West Mills, is expected to be in operation early in December, it was announced this week by John Davenport, president of the concern.

The announcement followed the signing of a contract between the town and the company providing for the construction of an electric line to the plant. The plant will use approximately 60 H. P. to start with, it is stated.

Under the terms of the contract, the company will pay for the construction of the line. The company will then be repaid by the town with power, there being no charge for power until after the line shall have been paid for with electricity. Work on the line will be begun shortly, it is announced.

The Franklin Mineral Products will mine and refine the mica and kaolin in the Buii Knob deposit, about a half mile from West Mills. The company will employ about twelve men regularly, when operation is begun, Mr. Davenport said.

The company expects to be able to turn out two cars of kaolin, or between 60 and 80 tons, per week; the mica mined will be shipped out either in sheets or ground, according to the quality of the mineral.

The building for the plant, which is already under construction, will be a structure about 180 feet long.

### Scroll Items

Mrs. Eva Lewis and children of Ravensford have been visiting relatives here.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Moss and family of Otto, spent the week end with relatives here. They were accompanied by Mrs. C. R. Mashburn, who plans to stay a while.

## Weaver Will Make Speeches in This County Next Week

Congressman Zebulon Weaver Democratic candidate for re-election, will make his first speech in Macon county during the present campaign at Franklin next Wednesday. His itinerary will also take him to Otto and Cowee for addresses.

Mr. Weaver's coming to Macon follows the opening of the Democratic campaign in this county last Saturday, when Felix E. Alley, of Waynesville, Mr. Weaver's successful opponent in the June primary, started the Democratic ball rolling in Macon.

Congressman Weaver's first address will be at the court house here on Wednesday, at 3 o'clock. That evening at 7:30 he will speak at the Otto school house, and on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock he will address the voters of Cowee at the Cowee school house.

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## Winner's Names And Essays Are To Be Published

School Boys and Girls in County Have Just 10 More Days in Which to Complete Their Essays. Contest Closes Last Day of October.

In about two weeks, Macon county and the world will learn the prize winners in the Building and Loan Essay Contest on "How I Can Use the Building and Loan to Pay for a College Education." The names of the 10 boys and girls submitting the best essays on this subject will appear on the front page of the Franklin Press; and their essays will likewise be published.

But the boys and girls in the public schools of Macon county have just 10 more days in which to complete their essays. It is time for those who want to win to get busy.

On or before midnight of the last day of October every essay must either be in the Building and Loan office or be in the mails.

The next day the judges will begin the task of reading and grading the various essays submitted in the contest. As soon as the essays have been carefully read and graded, the names of the prize-winning boys and girls will be announced, and the 10 prizes, including the \$25 in gold offered by the officers and directors of the Association, will be awarded.

At the same time, announcement will be made as to whether or not the four students submitting the first, second, third, and fourth best essays won the four cash prizes of \$10, \$7.50, \$5, and \$2.50 offered by the Press. The boys and girls winning the four first places will receive these additional awards if their essays are accompanied by one new or two renewal subscriptions to the Press for one year each.

When the announcement is made, there will be 10 very proud boys and girls. For the winners in this contest will have not only won a valuable prize each, but will have brought credit to their respective schools, and shown to the world what determination, hard work, and brains can accomplish.

Complete information about the contest can be secured either from the Building and Loan office, No. 2 Bank of Franklin Building, or from the Franklin Press.

## FIRST NUMBER LYCEUM FRIDAY

The first number of the Lyceum program here this winter will be given at the court house tomorrow (Friday) night, October 22, at 8:00 o'clock. The program is announced for that time, rather than earlier, in order not to interfere with the services that evening at 7:00 at the local Presbyterian church.

The program is music and magic, by Frye and Company.

This will be the first of four numbers, the entire course being sponsored this winter by the 1915 MacDowell Club.

Season tickets are on sale at Smith's Drug Store and the Chamber of Commerce. The season tickets, admitting holders to all four numbers, are \$1.50, while season tickets for school children are 90 cents.

It is expected that a large number of children, not only from Franklin, but from other schools in the county, will be in attendance. The magic appeals particularly to children—and to adults, because they are, after all, only grown up children, so far as magic and mystery are concerned.

## Thanksgiving Poultry Sale on November 17

A Thanksgiving poultry sale, mainly a sale of turkeys, is announced by County Agent John V. Arrendale for November 17. The sale will be for Franklin and points south, Otto and towns over the Georgia line.

Mr. Arrendale says that the sale will be mainly for turkeys, but that other poultry will be included. He suggests that the farmers sell their more mature turkeys at this time, saving the others for another sale to be held just before Christmas.

He particularly requests that farmers let him know how much poultry they will offer, in order that he may make arrangements for a car or cars. Last year, he said, at a similar sale, he was not given sufficient information, and as a result there was more poultry offered than could be handled by the single car he had ordered.

## C. OF C. MEETING TUESDAY EVENING

### Chamber of Commerce Will Hear Schaub at 7 P. M. At Oyster Supper—Tickets To Be Sold Today.

The Franklin Chamber of Commerce will hold its second get-together meeting on next Tuesday evening at 7 o'clock, at the Junior Order hall, when business and professional men, farmers and ministers and their wives will meet to enjoy an oyster supper, learn something of what the Chamber of Commerce is doing, and hear Dean I. O. Schaub, of State College, who will be the principal speaker of the evening.

All tickets must be sold today (Thursday), it is announced, in order that the chamber of commerce committee responsible for the meeting can know how many plates to order. The tickets, which are sold for 75 cents, are to pay, not for any part of the program, but simply for the oyster supper.

Those who desire to eat supper at home or elsewhere, or who find it impossible to be present for the supper, will be welcomed for Mr. Schaub's address immediately following the supper.

There will be a brief program immediately preceding the address of the State College official.

Mr. Schaub is a native of North Carolina and knows conditions here, and his address on how farmers, ministers, and business men can co-operate for the agricultural advancement of the county is expected to prove not only helpful, but intensely interesting, as Dean Schaub is said to be a most entertaining speaker.

### Old Resident Here

Of considerable interest to the citizens of Macon county, especially the old-timers, is the fact that Rev. and Mrs. R. A. Owen, of Radford, Va., have been visiting friends and relatives here this week.

Rev. Mr. Owen was born in East Franklin 74 years ago, and when quite a young man became a preacher, which profession he has followed without a break for 49 years. He is now a member of the Holston conference.

While here visiting his sister, Mrs. G. H. Gibson, Rev. Mr. Owen went to the place of his birth but found no trace of the home where he first saw the light of the world. However, he drank water from the old spring and pronounced the water as good as ever.

The first newspaper Rev. Mr. Owen ever saw was the Franklin Observer, published in 1860, with Rev. C. D. Smith and L. F. Siler as editors. In the Press office he was shown a copy of the Franklin Observer of 1860 and was much interested. This edition recalled to the mind of Rev. Mr. Owen that his father was a Colonel of Militia here in 1860, and assisted in recruiting men for the cause of the Confederacy.

Aside from the material prosperity of the county, the thing that impressed this former citizen was the absence of most of those he knew in his boyhood days; these friends have passed over the river to the Great Beyond. Rev. Mr. Owen found many of their names on the tombstones in the local cemeteries.

This was the first visit of Rev. Mr. Owen to Franklin in 40 years. However, he plans to return to Macon county sometime within a year and preach a semi-centennial sermon in commemoration of his 50 years' service in the cause of the Master. He thinks it appropriate to preach such a sermon in the county where he was born and where he preached as a young man. On this occasion no doubt, hundreds will go to hear this venerable minister of the gospel.

### CHEVROLET PRODUCTION BREAKS ALL RECORDS

The Chevrolet Motor Company, largest manufacturer of three-speed cars, shattered two of its marks during September when it established a new monthly record of 81,158 passenger cars and trucks, and attained a production total of 593,281 units for the first nine months of 1926, eclipsing the half-million production of the entire twelve months of 1925, Chevrolet's greatest year.

Neither of these figures ever has been approached by any builder of cars with three-speed selective transmissions.

The September production averaged 3,381 units daily for the twenty four working days of the month. This also is a new record. The 81,158 total for September followed several recent months of record-breaking production. April, May and June, with respective productions of 71,157, 74,617, and 77,241, each established successive production records.