

The Franklin Press

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CHIEF COFFEY JAILS THREE MEN

Hit Chief's Car on Georgia Road—Coffey Charges Men Were Drunk—Men Fined \$5 Each.

Tuesday morning was a hard day on automobiles in Macon county. Two cars were practically demolished at Cowee Gap when rum-runners attempted to drive past two officers' cars placed there to stop them; and two more were damaged on the Georgia road, about four miles from Franklin, when the car in which officers were riding collided with one carrying Carl Waldrop, Lawrence Blaine, and Oscar Lewis. Chief of Police R. M. Coffey, in the officer's car, charged the three men with being drunk, and lodged them in the Macon county jail.

At the hearing before Justice of the Peace James Raby Tuesday morning, the charge was made that of simple assault, and they were fined \$5 each, and they also agreed to pay for repairing the officers' car. The officers' car damaged was that recently bought for Mr. Coffey by the County Board of Education.

No evidence was offered at the hearing.

GOVERNMENT TO SELL TIMBER

Approximately 8,000,000 board feet of timber, in Swain and Macon counties, and covering an area of about 900 acres within the Nantahala National Forest, is to be sold, according to a notice in last week's issue of the Franklin Press.

Scaled bids will be opened after March 28, by the District Forester, Washington, D. C. Timber for sale includes "all the merchantable dead timber, standing or down, and all the live timber marked or designated for cutting."

The bidding is expected to be spirited.

The timber lies on the watershed of Wesser Creek, in the two counties of Macon and Swain.

The timber is estimated to run, in board feet, as follows: chestnut, 600,000; oak, 420,000; basswood, 70,000; poplar, 57,000; cherry and ash, 7,000; miscellaneous, including buckeye, maple, hickory, and hemlock, 100,000. The timber also includes approximately 10,000 cords of chestnut acidwood; 3,000 poles; and 10,600 hewn crossies.

Tellico Locals

Mr. Z. B. Byrd, forest ranger and Mr. Burns are in this section, marking timber and scaling logs for the Porter and Moody Lumber Co.

Mr. and Mrs. General Ownsby, of Briartown was in this section Monday.

Miss Laletia Dean, of Burningtown was in this community Thursday.

The Cliff Ridge Mining Co., are getting out some very fine mica. We wish them much success.

The roads are so bad that the Porter and Moody Lumber Co. are not getting much lumber hauled at present.

Mr. Samuel T. Ramsey, of this place celebrated his 80th birthday February 22. All of his children that are living were present. They are: George, Robert, James, and Harley Ramsey and Mrs. Laura DeHart, all of this community.

A fine dinner was served and to make the day more pleasant for his children he gave each one \$10.00. He has 32 grand-children living; 26 girls and 6 boys. 13 of them were present at the dinner. Mr. Ramsey also has 14 great-grand-children living. We wish him many more happy birthdays.

Messrs. Harley Ramsey and V. C. DeHart are ditching and improving the Hurst place.

Mrs. Sarah Breedlove is on the sick list. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Misses Lola and Jessie Ramsey, who are attending school at Franklin spent a few days with home folks this week.

Singing Convention

The quartly singing convention will meet at Holly Springs church Sunday, March 6 at 9:30 a. m. All singers, and the public are cordially invited to be present.—W. H. Dalton, Sec.

TRI-PUSHERS HAVE BANQUET

Employees and Owners of Joines Motor & Tractor Co., J. S. Conley Motor Co. and Conley & Joines Dine at Scott Griffin.

What co-operation and loyalty on the part of employees and square dealing on the part of employers can do was amply illustrated last Friday night when the owners and employees of Joines Motor and Tractor Company, J. S. Conley Motor Company and Conley & Joines assembled at the Scott Griffin Hotel to enjoy an excellent banquet and to discuss means whereby the public may be better served by the three organizations concerned. The entire personnel of these three firms have formed an organization known as the Tri-Pushers. This organization has been in existence about 18 months and holds weekly meetings to talk over improvements in all departments of the three firms. Joines Motor and Tractor Company are local Ford agents, J. S. Conley Motor Company are local agents for the Dodge cars while Conley & Joines are local representatives of the Standard Oil Company.

The fire works started when Jim Morrison and Alvah Pearce, Ford salesmen, told those present how to sell a Ford car. Pearce was the salesman while Morrison assumed the role of prospective buyer. The dialogue was a revelation as to the methods followed by the Ford Company in making sales.

The invited guests, Major S. A. Harris and Mr. J. W. Street, then made short talks, after which each employee present stated his views for improving the business of the three firms.

Mr. Jess Conley acted as toastmaster and called upon Mr. S. R. Joines last. Mr. Joines outlined his plans for the future in an earnest talk that was an inspiration to those associated with him in business. Among other things Mr. Joines said that the shop department of his business will hereafter be kept as clean as the clerical department. He intends to buy new equipment as soon as it is placed on the market and thus be able to do any kind of repair work that is done in larger places. In fact all such equipment, he said, is now installed with trained mechanics to operate the various appliances. Mr. Joines told his employees that he will back up any promises made by them to the public.

Mr. Joines also said that he has finishing touches on his building and expects in the near future to have an open week when the public will be cordially invited to inspect the premises.

Those present included Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Joines, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Conley, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Stribling, Mr. and Mrs. Alvah Pearce, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Henry, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Rochester, Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Phillips, Miss Elizabeth Barnard and Messrs. Furman Smart, Harry West, Jim Morrison, J. E. Rickman, J. W. Street, Ed Whittington and S. A. Harris.

Attempted Jail Break

Toney Rice, W. G. Hampton, and George Merchant, in Macon county's jail on various charges, Monday afternoon were bound to Macon Superior court under bonds of \$200 each on the charges of attempting to break jail, and of damaging the jail.

The youths had almost succeeded in digging a hole through the wall of the jail a few days ago, when they were detected.

At the hearing, held before Justices of the Peace George Carpenter and James Raby, Merchant, a well-dressed youth with a good face, volunteered to go on the stand, and told a straight story of how they planned and almost executed the escape. In the course of his story, he told how two others in the jail, who had taken the stand to swear they were innocent, had refused to take any part in the actual digging, but had agreed to attempt to escape, should the other three succeed in making an opening through the wall.

Merchant told another straightforward story of how he had stolen an automobile, when two men reached here Monday afternoon, claiming the car.

The three youths convicted, who appeared to consider the entire proceeding a huge joke, were alleged to have stated that when they struck the ground, they would make their escape—that no two men in Macon county could take them to the court house for trial. Consequently, they were handcuffed together and taken to trial.

CHIEF COFFEY SHOOTS NEGRO

Also Strikes Woman With Pistol—Ben Martin and Dusky Damsel Bound to Court.

Ben Martin, his hands bound with bandages, where he had been shot, and Mattie Strickland, both negroes, given a preliminary hearing before Justices of the Peace George Carpenter and James Raby Monday afternoon, were bound to Superior court under bonds of \$200 each. They were charged with a statutory offense. Martin waived preliminary hearing on the charge of an assault, and was held under \$300 bond.

The assault charge grew out of Martin's alleged display of a gun when Chief of Police R. M. Coffey and other officers entered the woman's house to make the arrests. Martin, in another room, stuck the gun through the crack of the door, Coffey testified, whereupon the officer shot him. He was shot in both hands.

Coffey shot five times, he stated afterward, and thought at the time that he had killed Martin.

During the shooting, the woman, he said, threw her arms around him with the plea, "Don't shoot my baby." The officer, fearing a trick, he said, struck the woman over the head with the butt of his gun, thus freeing himself.

CHURCH COLLECTS FOR MISSIONS

In its "every member canvass" for missions last Sunday, the local Methodist church raised, in cash and 30-day subscriptions, \$196. An additional \$14.15 was sent in for the same cause from Carson's Chapel.

The money was raised through solicitation by committees. The M. E. church, South, it was announced, needed \$1,000,000, in addition to regular assessments, to continue its mission work at the present rate; and the proposal was to raise the sum through an "every member canvass" for free will offerings. The canvass was to have been made Sunday in all Southern Methodist churches.

S. C. I. News

Our school is progressing nicely, under the leadership of Prof. W. C. Reed. We will all be sorry to see school close.

Miss Ruby Solesbee spent the week-end with home folks at Franklin.

Misses Hazel and Florence Wood and Hattie Parker spent the week-end at Cowarts.

The sophomore class gave the seniors a reception at the New Jackson Hotel Monday night. They all reported a nice time.

The senior class is glad to welcome Mr. Erwin Smith back again in school.

Miss Bonnie DeHart has been very ill for the past week with her smallpox vaccination. We are glad to see her in school again.

Miss Eligabeth Brown has been very sick for the past week. We are glad to know she is well again.

The faculty of S. C. I. were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Montieth on Monday evening February 28.

Thunders And Snows

A freak of weather that does credit even to the mountains, where rain and sunshine, thunderstorm and snow, alternate with startling rapidity, was described here Friday by Z. B. Byrd, forest ranger, for the Nantahala National Forest.

Mr. Byrd was at Robert Ramsey's on Tellico Creek, during a violent thunderstorm, followed by a down pour of rain, occurring when the mercury was easily low enough for snow. He telephoned to J. M. Cochran, who lives just across the Tellico Gap, and learned that there a snow storm was in progress, following immediately on the heels of lightning and thunder.

P. T. A. Meeting

No meeting of the local Parent-Teacher Association will be held on Friday, it is announced. Instead, members of the organization are invited and urged to attend the day of prayer services at the Baptist church on Friday.

The program for the meeting of the Association on March 11 will be published in next week's issue of the Press.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS COMING

Beginning March, Ist. A. V. Washburn, will begin work in Western North Carolina as Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. field worker with the Baptist State Mission Board. His territory will include the following seven counties; Haywood, Jackson, Swain, Macon, Clay, Graham and Cherokee which comprise six associations as follows: Haywood, Tuckasee, Tennessee River, Macon, Western North Carolina and West Liberty.

The nature of Mr. Washburn's work will largely be conducting Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. training classes and assisting in enlargement campaigns. Mrs. Washburn, will be with her husband part of the time teaching elementary Sunday School and Junior Intermediate B. Y. P. U. work.

Mr. Washburn with his family will be located at Sylva after March 8.

Shrine Club Organized

Local shriners believe that Franklin has the smallest shrine club in the State; and they doubt if there is as small a town in North Carolina with such an organization.

The Shriners Club of Franklin, just organized here, has 13 members—almost two per cent of the population. The organization meeting was held Friday, at the Scott Griffin Hotel.

Officers chosen were Dr. S. H. Lyle, president; Sam L. Franks, vice-president; and Alvah Pearce, secretary and treasurer. Dr. Lyle has been a shiner longer than any other Franklin Mason.

Other members are: Fred Higdon, Frank I. Murray, M. L. Dowdle, E. W. Long, L. E. Lentz, D. D. Rice, J. S. Porter, O. E. Kimsey, Dr. W. A. Rogers, and H. B. Webber.

A meeting next Friday evening is scheduled, at which time the organization will be perfected; at that time, also, plans probably will be laid for the club's first social function.

The organization's purposes, it was explained, include social features, the general improvement of the community, and the brotherhood feature that goes with fraternal orders generally.

"See Governor Richards"

"See Governor Richards." Such was the telephonic reply given by druggists in Columbia, S. C. to requests to fill prescriptions on Sunday, February 20, the first day Governor Richards jammed down the Sunday "blue" law lid in Columbia, according to E. P. Gupton, official of the Hoffman Lumber Company in Columbia, who was here this week on business.

The "blue" laws were put into effect in Columbia a week ahead of their enforcement in other South Carolina towns, Mr. Gupton explained, and he stated that it was the druggists who were in highest dudgeon.

The "blue" laws permit them to fill prescriptions on Sunday, Mr. Gupton said, but they got together and agreed to give that answer to requests that prescriptions be filled. The two hospitals in Columbia filled prescriptions last Sunday, he said.

Although a bill has been introduced in the South Carolina General Assembly to repeal the Sunday laws, Mr. Gupton doubts that it will pass, he said; the laws may, however, be amended.

But Gupton who reached here Sunday to spend several days on business, was high in his praise of Franklin, and its apparent progress.

Charged With Car Theft

Arrested here last Wednesday on the minor charge of driving an automobile without license, a man giving his name as George Merchant and his address as Columbus, Ga., was later being held on charges of larceny of the automobile, of robbing a filling station, and of the larceny of a shotgun.

The additional charge of an attempted jail break may be preferred, as a result of his near-escape from the Macon county jail Thursday night. With a piece of iron and an ordinary table fork, he had almost dug through the brick wall when he was discovered, according to officers.

Merchant passed through Franklin Wednesday, and Chief of Police R. M. Coffey noted the absence of a license, and gave chase, overtaking him about five miles east of town. He was brought back to town, and a shotgun in his possession was immediately claimed by Harry Shepherd, local man. A quantity of chewing gum, etc., in the back of the car, the officers believe to have been pilfered from the filling station at the North Carolina-Georgia line. And investigation led to the belief that the belief that the car had been stolen—a belief substantiated by Merchant's confession Thursday night, Mr. Coffey said.

A telegram received Friday from Clover, S. C., indicated that the man claiming ownership of the car was on his way to Franklin.

ONE MAN SHOT ANOTHER JAILED

Man Shot Trying to Escape—Officers Refuse to Admit Shooting—Two Cars Badly Damaged.

One man was shot, another was jailed, two cars were badly damaged, and officers took approximately 100 gallons of liquor on Cowee Mountain Tuesday morning. The liquor capture was made following a gun-battle between officers and rum-runners, according to one of the officers.

The man shot, who gave officers the name of Evans, and Asheville as his address, is really Dewey Whitaker, of Asheville, Chief of Police R. M. Coffey said. It was Evans who successfully eluded Coffey in a chase last summer, the policeman said.

The officers were non-communicative as to who shot Evans. He was caught by Deputy Sheriff Fred Cabe after a foot race of about 100 yards, the officers said. When he was caught, Evans told Cabe he was shot. No gun was found on Evans; officers believe, however, that he had one and threw it away, they said. He was shot through the leg.

The other man, whose name was not learned, and who was lodged in the Macon county jail, carried a gun, the officers stated.

Two officers' cars went ahead to intercept the rum-runners, while Sheriff C. L. Ingram remained behind to give chase, according to the officers. Ingram, in the chase, had his car overturned, but was unhurt.

Mr. Coffey placed one car on one side of the road, at the Cowee Gap, and another on the other side; he did not block the highway, however, he said. When the rum-runners, attempted to force their way through, they struck Coffey's car, badly damaging it and their own likewise striking and slightly damaging the other officers' car, placed on the opposite side of the highway.

The liquor haul was six kegs, said to contain 15 or 16 gallons each.

Evans, it was stated at the hospital Tuesday, probably will recover. While it is difficult to say with certainty, it was stated that apparently the bullet entered at the rear of the thigh, emerging in front.

SOLESBEE'S ROAD BILL KILLED

The delegation of local citizens which went to Raleigh last Wednesday in connection with the Solesbee road bill, which appeared to draw general criticism, returned to Franklin Wednesday night, and reported that the bill had been killed in the senate.

In the delegation were Gilmer A. Jones, Sam L. Franks, Alex Moore, J. H. Stockton, Jos. Ashear, and Miss Lassie Kelly.

Miss Kelly and Mr. Ashear did not return with the other members of the party, Miss Kelly being employed in Raleigh, and Mr. Ashear going from Raleigh into Virginia on business.

Power Line Completed

When Franklin completed its municipal hydro-electric power plant on the Little Tennessee River a year ago, it had in mind attraction of manufacturing plant to Franklin.

No large manufacturers have located here as yet—though the town is going after them, and expects to land one or more before another year has gone—but the sale of electrical current continues to grow.

And this week, with the completion of the power line from Franklin to the plant and mines of the Franklin Mineral Products Company, down the river, the town has another comparatively large user of current, adding again to its revenue from sale of power. The line was completed Saturday.

The concern, under the direction of John Davenport, mines and refines mica, primarily. It will use approximately 72 and one-half horsepower at first, but the amount needed is expected to grow to from 125 to 150 horsepower, according to T. W. Angel, Jr., town engineer. Completion of the power line will mean a larger volume of work, and employment of additional men, it is stated.