

The Franklin Press

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

S. A. HARRIS.....Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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Very reasonable, and will be made known upon request.

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THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

THE FRANKLIN PRESS PLATFORM

Extension of the sewer lines.
Beautify the school grounds.
Two hundred summer cottages.
A sewage disposal plant.
More official activity in the sale of surplus power.
The construction of business blocks.
Plant trees along the State highways of the county.
Make a white way of Main street.
An excellent school library.
Courteous treatment for visitors.
Improvement of county roads connecting with State highways.
A fish ladder at the municipal dam.
Co-operation, vim, push, work-everything for the good of Franklin and Macon county.
New court house and jail combined.

How About It?

These days the streets of Franklin are filled with strangers. Welcome to each.

Another firm handling builders supplies is an indication of Franklin's growth.

The shrimers were delighted with Franklin's hospitality. Come again, nobles.

Franklin badly needs an up-town telegraph office. Having to go to the station to send a prepaid telegram is very inconvenient.

On the Fourth of July the Boy Scouts will do their level best to entertain you. Help them by seeing Rosetime, a delightful musical comedy, which will be staged at the court house at 8:00 P. M.

Altitude, climate, water and sewage systems, lights, 18-hole golf course—what more can Highlands want? Whatever it may be one can bet his last peso that the citizens of that town will have it.

Why do some of the good ladies of the farms persist in selling their surplus butter in Franklin when they can get more for their butter fat at the creamery? Perhaps their men folks just naturally like that good cold butter milk and would raise Cain unless the churn were kept in daily use. Yea, Verily!

The stock holders of the local cannery met at the office of the county agent on June 28, and perfected the organization. The cannery will soon be ready to can your produce. It will even can corn. The management wants 500 tons of produce suitable for canning. Don't disappoint those in charge.

A year ago or perhaps somewhat before the town purchased a street machine at a cost of around \$2,000. This machine has not been used but very little since it was bought. There is plenty of work for the machine to do, but nobody, apparently, to see that the work is done.

In the recent examination for entrance to high school at Franklin four pupils from Pine Grove District No. 1, took the test and all passed. The citizens of that district had made up sufficient money to have a school term of seven and a half months. This appears to be another argument in favor of longer school terms.

In our opinion Macon county will never have any feeder roads to our system of highways to amount to anything until the whole matter is taken over by the county. It has been proven that the township as a road unit is a failure. The county should have the necessary road machinery and appoint a road superintendent to build and keep in repair feeder roads all over the county. This will possibly require legislation.

Certain firms in the larger cities are sending packages of neckties and other merchandise to our readers with the request that the money be sent or that the goods be returned. If you use the goods the sender can probably collect for them. However, you are under no obligation to return the merchandise or to send the money. Just notify the sender

that the goods are being held until he calls for them and that you intend to charge a certain amount for storage and that on a certain date you will sell the goods for storage charges. The ties, etc., are usually worthless and not worth half the price requested.

We see where a citizen of Highlands gently chides the editor of the Charlotte Observer for his failure to mention Highlands in his many editorials on the mountainous section of the state. We suggest that the citizens of Highlands kidnap the editor of the Observer and carry him to their mountain stronghold. In that case we feel assured that the next issue of the Observer would carry an enthusiastic editorial concerning the beauties of Highlands. Not that Col. Harris would be compelled to write such an editorial, but no living man can visit Highlands without becoming enthusiastic.

The profit on one acre of tomatoes will equal the profit on twelve average acres of corn in Macon county. Like wise with some other truck crops. According to those in a position to know there is plenty of land in cultivation in Macon county, but seldom in a high state of cultivation. Tend less land and make it produce more and better stuff to the acre is the verdict of experts. Our farmers might well follow the example of the old German who came to America and bought ten acres of land. When asked if he thought he could make a living on ten acres he replied: "Vell if I can't, I sell five acres."

According to reports from the Mississippi valley the chances of raising any kind of a corn crop there are exceedingly slim. As a result farmers in that large section of the country are selling their brood sows for slaughter. Consequently there will be a shortage of hogs in the fall and pork prices will be high. Our farmers should take advantage of these prospective high prices and prepare now to raise all the hogs possible and to feed their surplus corn to their swine. This week the county agent is demonstrating the Shay method of feeding hogs. Under this method 777 hogs in 18 counties were recently prepared for market. The corn fed these hogs brought \$2.08 per bushel.

Stirred Up Hornet's Nest

IN ITS EDITORIAL last week under the caption of Cow Vs. 40 Acres the Press has stirred up a veritable hornet's nest. Some there are who would like to shoot the editor at sun rise. Even the county agent who furnished the figures on which the editorial was based has come in for criticism. Why all the hullabaloo? The Press offered an opportunity to any and all who disagreed with the conclusions reached to submit their views. We even urged them to do so. But for some reason no communications have been received concerning the relative income from 40 acres of corn or one thoroughbred cow. What's the matter with the critics of the editorial in question that they do not rip the hide off the editor in the columns of his own paper? Is it by means that they haven't the proper kind of skinning knife in the form of facts—no ammunition suitable for the occasion? We do not claim to be infallible. If our conclusions were based on false premises in the question at issue no one is in a better position to correct us than the farmers themselves. Some claim that our estimate of 15 bushels of corn to the acre is too small, but nearly all agree that the average yield will not run over 20 bushels to the acre. The general consensus of opinion among the farmers seems to support the estimate of 15 bushels. The government figures for 1924 give an average yield of 18 bushels per acre for the entire state and an average of approximately 26 bushels for the entire country. This of course includes the states in the Mississippi Valley, where they pride themselves on growing corn. But strange to say the New England states have the highest yield per acre of any states in the union, Massachusetts making an average of 47 bushels. South Carolina had an average yield of only 11.5 bushels in 1924; Florida, 14.5; Mississippi, 12; Louisiana, 11.5, and Wyoming, 14. But take the average yield of the state, 18 bushels of corn per acre, and we find that one thoroughbred cow will produce as much income as 34.5 acres planted to corn. This ought to be an eye opener to those who plant corn, talk corn, eat corn, think corn to the utter abandonment of every other phase of farming activities and to the detriment of their incomes.

Some of our critics claim that it is bad for the county to spread the news, even if true, over the county and state that one thoroughbred cow will produce more income than 40 average acres of corn in Macon county. The Press does not think so. If the Press can deliver a jolt that will jar our corn growing farmers loose from their smug complacency and bring them to a realization of the im-

portance of diversification, then it will have accomplished a distinct service.

This issue carries an editorial under the caption of Cow Vs. Three Farms. Watch out for the fireworks! The Press office is located only 14 miles from the Georgia line. There is a perfectly good concrete road and the editor in a fast car can make the distance in 20 minutes.

A Landing Field

COL. CHAS. LINDBERGH has mentioned a close-in landing field as one of the pressing needs of every city. But when these cities were being built aeroplanes were not considered. As a result there are no fields available within reasonable distance of most of our cities. New York, for instance, has its landing field many miles out on Long Island. And so with other cities. Coming closer home Asheville seemed to have considerable difficulty in locating a landing field. Likewise Atlanta. Landing fields seem to be the crying need. Hardly a daily paper in any fair sized city but what is stressing this need. We recommend one for Franklin while there are plenty available near the town. "Bosh," we hear you say, and so would have said, with much more reason, the men who laid out the cities of America if told that the coming of the automobile would necessitate wider streets. Five years hence the sight of a plane over Franklin will be no novelty. Ten years from now the farmer will not even glance up when he hears the roar of one's motor. There is no reason to believe that the aeroplane industry will not equal that of the automobile, and that in the very near future. When that day arrives, say within 10 or 15 years, every little town will need a landing field. And now is the time to provide one. The plane is destined to supersede, to a considerable extent, the automobile as a means of travel. Regular schedules between cities will be maintained just as bus schedules are at present. And the little town that has a landing field available is bound to profit by the arrival of visitors by the air route. A man or his family wishing to come to Franklin through the air must have a closer place to land than Asheville. Again. We must remember that Franklin is growing rapidly and will in time spread out over many of the fields now available. A combination of landing field and golf course might be the solution to the question. At any rate our citizens might well consider the necessity for a landing field.

Cow vs. Three Farms

THERE ARE approximately 2,000 farms in Macon county averaging 106 acres to the farm. Of the 106 acres only 15 acres are in actual cultivation, the remainder being in pasture or woodland. Suppose that the fifteen acres on the average farm were planted to corn and an average crop of fifteen bushels to the acre grown. In that case one thoroughbred cow would produce more income than three average farms planted to corn. Don't believe it? Neither did we until we began investigating the matter.

But with the cannery in operation there ought to be an entirely different story to tell. Two or three acres planted in certain truck crops should produce more income than one good cow. Again just a plain case of headwork plus labor. It is not our intention to minimize the importance of growing corn. This is an important Macon county crop. Especially when fed to hogs. We make these comparisons merely to invite attention to the necessity for diversification and to the importance of having thoroughbred cows on the farms in this county.

Wanted: 500 Tons

THE CANNERY wants 500 tons of green stuff to go in cans. This is 1,000,000 pounds. Canned stuff averages about one and a half pounds to the can. After deducting for loss of weight in cooking we find 500,000 cans of food as the program for the first year of the cannery. Lazy farmers cannot supply the demand, but Macon county farmers and those from adjoining counties can and will. A market for everything suitable for canning is now assured. Who will furnish the first ton of the 500 wanted? Whether or not any particular farmer can read his "title clear to mansions in the skies" may be a matter of speculation, but there is no doubt that he can read his title clear to his home and farm provided he will take advantage of the cannery and creamery. Not only that but son and daughter will soon want to go to college. Let them save the money by growing stuff for the cannery.

An Acre of Tomatoes

AN ACRE OF tomatoes when properly tended should grow six tons. They will sell for \$15 or \$20 per ton. At the minimum price of \$15, an acre should produce a gross income of \$90. The cost of production is be-

tween \$30 and \$50 per acre. Taking forty dollars as the average we have \$50 clear profit per acre. Tomatoes can be set any time before the 15th of July and produce a crop. The cannery will solve the market difficulties. It might be a good idea to investigate the growing of tomatoes and other truck crops. Or would you prefer to grow corn at a profit of \$4.00 per acre?

Letters

HIGHLANDS

Mountain Resort That Claims to Be Finest in the State

To the Editor of the Observer:

As a reader of your paper for years, I know how ardent an admirer you are of the mountains of our state and how much you have done to enlighten your many readers concerning the beauties of these mountains. What wonder, though, is that you have never found your way here, to the finest climate and natural attractions of any mountain resort in our state.

You sing the praises of High Hampton, Sylva and Franklin but never a word about Highlands. While those towns are a within from 12 to 30 miles of us, we must travel far down hill to reach either of them. Our business section is 3,823 feet altitude and many of our residences several hundred feet higher.

Whiteside Mountain, which you name first in a list of the 10 most beautiful views in the state, we claim as our own as it is only four miles, 30 minutes from here to its peak.

Satulah Mountain, 4,560 feet, and one and one-half miles south, has one of the finest views of any mountain in the state. The mountains of Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee can be plainly seen from its top.

Like our sister town, Franklin, we were more or less a Georgia community until the good roads put us back into our own state.

While our winter population is only about 450, there are many summer homes here owned by some of the best people in Atlanta, Charleston, New Orleans and many Florida towns.

The taxable property in our town is about \$285,000. We have issued bonds to the amount of \$150,000. We have a gravity water system from mountain springs four miles distant and 4,100 feet altitude which gives a pressure in our mains of 90 pounds to the square inch.

Tucker & Laxton, of your city, have just completed for us at hydro-electric plant on the Cullasaja River two miles distant. A 25 foot concrete dam holds back a lake of 90 acres of clear, deep water, and an 18-inch flume takes the water 200 feet down to the power house.

Our streets are brilliantly lighted and in our homes we are enjoying many of the conveniences which electricity has provided for us. Our Main street will be a part of Highway No. 28, which is now being built from Franklin to this town. The wild grandeur, the scenic beauty of that 21 miles on No. 28 will surpass that of any other mountain road in the South, when completed.

One of our best assets, however, is an 18-hole golf course which we are to have within one year. Arrangements have just been completed for the construction of this on 400 acres of land quite near the town which has just been bought. A \$50,000 35-room club house will be built. A 20-acre lake will be on the tract, and new roads will make available a number of building lots or small estates, which will be sold to members of the club.

Golf enthusiasts of Atlanta, New York, Lexington and other cities, and citizens of our town are the subscribers.

Our Chamber of Commerce has requested me to cordially invite you and any friends who may accompany you to be our guests on one of your mountain trips, and let us show you our town and surroundings. J. A. HINES. —Charlotte Observer.

OUR COUNTY AGENT

Editor Press:

Our former county agent, Mr. Arrendale, was a man of good educational gear, practical, and wrought well, but he resigned and was called elsewhere.

Our present county agent, Mr. Harris, is a man of ripe views, as is evidenced by his published articles in the Press. He invites co-operation, and prudently challenges farmers to test his propositions. Nothing is proved beyond a doubt until verified. As a pledge of faith, why should farmers not stand beside Agent Harris while he tests the value of his demonstrations? The idea here intended to be conveyed is couched in a military term, familiar to Major Harris, "All together, aheave!"

A man who performs honest labor, either with his hands or brain, must not be forced into hermitage. To drop gentility would eclipse enlightenment and be not a whit better than heathen ostracism. These reflections are not intended to criminate, but to be left in the background while the noble-hearted Macon citizens plead not guilty.

Agent Harris veils his degree from the public eye, but I shall call him professor, because of his excellent intellectual culture.

J. K. B.