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Franklin Extends Welcome To Juniors

T. R. GRAY DIED LAST THURSDAY

Was Pioneer Citizen of the County, Highly Honored and Respected—Served in Civil War.

T. R. Gray, beloved Macon county citizen, died at his country home—the home that was his parents', and where he was reared—at 1:30 last Thursday afternoon. Funeral services were held Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock, at Salem church, of which Mr. Gray had been a member for more than 60 years. The service was conducted by the pastor, the Rev. J. H. Strickland, and interment was in the church yard.

His death followed an illness of about two and a half years. He had been confined to his bed almost constantly for more than a year. Kidney and heart affections were said to have been the cause of his death. Mr. Gray was 80 years old.

Surviving are his widow; one son, James M. Gray, of Raleigh; three daughters, Mrs. Horace Hurst, of the Cartoogechayes community in this county; Mrs. F. O. Dryman, of Morven, N. C.; and Mrs. David Willis, of New Bern; and 12 grandchildren.

Not a man of great wealth, nor one who had held high office, Mr. Gray, nevertheless, stood out prominently in this county and region as a man of high integrity and strong character.

The son of James K. and Matilda Lowry Gray, Thomas Robinson Gray was born in Franklin November 4, 1846. While he was still an infant, his parents moved to the farm, about six miles east of Franklin, and there he was reared, later making his parents' home his own.

Of interest is the fact that a part of the present beautiful Gray home was there when Mr. Gray's father bought the place, nearly 80 years ago.

Though a mere lad, Mr. Gray enlisted in the Confederate army and served the last 18 months of the war, under General Johnston.

He was with Johnston's army at the time of the surrender, near Durham. His rank at the end of the war was corporal.

Mr. Gray was said never to have forgotten his army experiences and to have been much influenced by them, and it was remarked of him, in the later years of his life, that he "looked like a soldier."

Mr. Gray's public life was comprised in a single brief period during the World War, when he again answered the call of country, this time to serve on the county draft board.

But in his church—Salem Methodist church—he was a steward and superintendent of the Sunday school for the 50 years or more preceding his illness.

Another office held by him for more than a half century was that of secretary of the Siler Family reunion. The family, a few years ago, at the end of his 50 years' service, presented him a silver loving cup, as a token of appreciation.

During his illness, his son has served as acting secretary of the reunion. After he became ill, Mr. Gray insisted that a new secretary be chosen, but the family steadfastly declined to elect anyone else during his lifetime.

He was married three times. His first wife was Miss Ellen Crawford, a daughter of Mrs. Virginia Crawford, of Franklin. The single child of this union survived its mother only a few months.

He was married the second time to Miss Maria Miller, of Haywood county, who was the mother of the four children surviving Mr. Gray. She died in 1903.

The widow surviving was, before her marriage, Miss Mary Slagle.

Assets Rapidly Increase

That the assets of the Citizens Bank are rapidly increasing can be readily ascertained by glancing at the advertisements of this institution, appearing in last week's Press and in this issue.

The ad last week carried total assets of \$127,317.54. This week's ad shows total assets of \$134,404.94, or a gain of \$7,087.40 in one week.

The officials of this bank are naturally elated at this evidence of confidence on the part of the public.

Commissioners Raise Lumber Company's Taxes

The appeal of the W. M. Ritter lumber company to the Macon county commissioners for a cut in the valuation for taxation of its property in this county—more than 14,000 acres of virgin timber, an uncompleted railroad, a band mill, and other personal property—proved an expensive move. The commissioners have announced that, while they found the personal property valued at too high a figure, and have cut that assessment from \$129,650 to \$105,000, they found the timber assessed at too little, and have raised the assessment on it from \$12 to \$14 per acre.

The net result is that the concern will pay taxes on several thousand dollars more than they would have at the original figures.

The concern, at the hearing before the commissioners, sought to show that the personal property—band mill, etc.—was old and about worn out, and that the timber's location made it of comparatively small worth.

They asked that the personal property valuation be cut to about one-tenth of the original assessment, and that the timber be valued at a total figure—\$135,000—that would have figured about \$10 per acre.

The Tallassee power company fared somewhat better. The \$17 an acre valuation for the 11,000 or 12,000 acres in Nantahala township was unchanged, but the 54.7 acres in Cowee township was cut down to the same valuation. It originally was valued at a total of \$5,000. The company sought to have the valuation on all its property in this county cut to \$10 per acre.

MAKE USE OF AGENT'S OFFICE

The county agent's office—a place where the people from the country may rest in the cool; a market place for the exchange of ideas on agriculture; the place where farmers and their wives may come to make inquiries of their county agent; a reference library for the farmer; and—incidentally—a place where the county agent does his work.

That, in the opinion of Lyles Harris, Macon county agent, is what the county agent's office should be. He is seeking to make of his office such a place.

There is ample table room, should a farmer's wife wish to eat her lunch in the office; plenty of chairs provide for a comfortable gathering place; the county agent or his stenographer is always there to answer questions; and as an agricultural reference library, Mr. Harris' office probably is unique.

More than 500 subjects are treated in government and state agricultural bulletins, filed so that the farmer can easily find what he seeks. There are all sorts of reference books; plans for ideal barns, hog houses, chicken houses, etc., may be studied. All sorts of conveniences constructed in cement are shown by picture and diagram—specifically, concrete dairy houses.

And some dozen newspapers and farm periodicals are always on file, for those who desire to read them.

The county agent's office, Mr. Harris says, is primarily for the use of the farmers, and he is inviting them to utilize it.

Among the periodicals, the latest issue of which may be consulted at the agent's office at any time, are: American Farming, Southern Ruralist, Hoard's Dairyman, Farm and Fireside; Southern Planter, Farm Journal, Southern Cultivator and Farming, Rural New Yorker, Southern Agriculturist, Capper's Farmer, and the Progressive Farmer.

Mrs. McGuire Entertains Sunday School Classes

The Sunday school classes of Mrs. J. A. Flanagan and Mrs. W. B. McGuire were delightfully entertained at the home of the latter, on Saturday afternoon, July 9th. Games were enjoyed on the spacious lawn until a rain chased the happy little players into the house, where more quiet games were engaged in until the hostess dispersed these with delicious refreshments of cakes, candies and ice cream. Little boxes containing candy and balloons, were given each as favors. All had such a good time they are looking forward to another party real soon.

DEATH CALLS DAVID A. JACOBS

Killed by Cave-In, Back Broken—Was Highly Respected Citizen—Interment at Iotla.

David A. Jacobs, 78, was almost instantly killed on Iotla street, just north of the Macon county court house, Monday morning about 11 o'clock, when the bank along the street, caved in, and dirt and stone estimated to weigh two tons struck and covered him.

He was said to have sat down for a moment to rest, when the cave-in occurred. When extricated, his head had been bent down between his knees, and physicians said his back was broken.

Rescuers were about five or 10 minutes getting him out, and he lived about 10 minutes afterward.

The bank was some 10 or 12 feet high. George Wurst was removing dirt from this bank, to be used elsewhere, and Jacobs and Paul Carpenter were employed. A blast had been set off earlier in the day, and it was believed that this had loosened the entire bank.

The dead man was working at the bottom of the bank, while Carpenter was shoveling surface dirt off the top.

At first, it was not possible to tell just where the man was buried, and Carpenter, Parker Moore, who happened to be near, and numerous women living along the street, worked frantically with what tools they could secure and their hands to find and extricate the elderly man. When he was found, J. J. Conley saw he was still breathing, and held his head out of the dirt, while the remainder of the debris on his body was removed.

He is survived by eight children, Mrs. J. E. Myers, Mrs. R. L. Hall, Mrs. John Cunningham, and Joyce, J. D. and Mary Elizabeth Jacobs, all of Franklin, Mrs. Jim Calloway, of Burton, Ga., and Fred Jacobs, of Winston-Salem; and two brothers, Jule and Sol, both of Franklin.

Funeral services were held at Iotla Methodist church Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, and interment was there. The services were conducted by the Rev. J. H. Strickland, pastor, with the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, of which Mr. Jacobs was a member, taking part in the service. Rev. George Steed preached the funeral oration.

Mr. Jacobs was well known throughout this county, and was highly respected as a good citizen and man.

TAKES ADVANTAGE OF CORNFIELD

Officers Saturday were seeking the man who Friday fled his brand new automobile, which contained a small quantity of liquor, and out ran them on foot through a corn field, and escaped.

The car contained 16 pints, the officers reported.

Seeing officers on the bridge, the man left his car at the Indian Mound, nearby, and started on foot, straight across the mound and through the corn field, up the valley, and disappeared.

Sheriff Ingram knows the man's identity, he said today, but he did not divulge the name.

A Fifty Dollar Hen

An uncut ruby, the size of a pecan, well rounded and half polished by constant rubbing against other and smaller stones, was found the other day by Lee Mason, of the Cowee community of this county, in the craw of one of his hens, when the chicken was killed for Sunday dinner.

Though the stone is uncut, held to the light it is revealed as a remarkably beautiful gem. That fact, added to its size makes it of considerable value, according to the local collector, who immediately purchased it from Mason.

How the hen managed to swallow so large a stone, how long she had carried it, and how large it was originally—these are questions that Mason was unable to answer.

He pointed, however, to the fact that all rough corners had been worn away as indicating that it had lain in the hen's craw for a considerable time.

Great Rally of Junior Order Takes Place at Franklin Today

TRIED TO GIVE FISH A DRINK

Rum Runners Attempt to Flood Lake Emory With Carload of Liquor—Failing, One Tries to Sneak Liquor Into Jail.

The deliberate attempt of rum runners to drive their car straight off a precipice into Lake Emory, about two miles east of here, at daybreak Saturday morning, climaxed what Sheriff C. L. Ingram termed one of the wildest liquor races of his exciting career.

With the officers upon him, the driver of the liquor car threw it "wide open," headed it off the bluff overlooking the lake, and he and his companion jumped for their lives. Thus, they told officers after their capture, they expected to leave their captors without evidence, unless the latter could manage to fish the two barrels, containing 10 gallons each, out of the water.

The attempt was unsuccessful. At the lake's edge, the car struck a rock, and turned off into a corn field, miraculously still upright.

For the capture, Ingram had one car to pass and then turn and follow the runners, thus cutting off their retreat. Two other cars, facing each other, were placed at opposite ends of the bridge just as the liquor car approached, thus effectively blocking the bridge.

But the driver of the liquor car was too fast for them. Seeing the trap, he struck the bridge at 45 miles an hour, swerved around the first automobile, careened to the right and around the second, before the two had time to reach each other and make the blocking effective, and tore down the highway toward Asheville.

The race followed. At one point the runners were almost overtaken. But they reached the top of a long, steep hill, down which the highway winds around curves, and they dashed down this at a rate the officers dared not duplicate.

Again, the officers were almost alongside them, when the pursued suddenly turned into a side road, and toward Lake Emory. A short distance further on, by mistake or not, they took the wrong road, which led to the top of a knoll overlooking the lake, and suddenly ends there. It was here, with the officers upon them, that they headed their car for the lake's bottom.

Still game, according to Ingram, one of the men, handcuffed to a car while officers sought his companion, consumed a bottle of whiskey. The second, after his capture, was caught in the attempt to "bootleg" one of the gallon cans into the jail under his coat.

The haul was 32 gallons. The men gave the names of Sam Allison, of Marion, and Jerry Ferguson, who declined to name his home town.

FRANKLIN FURNITURE COMPANY MOVES

The Franklin Furniture company announced early this week that it will abandon its old place of business on Palmer street and move its entire stock to the recently enlarged store room on Main street in the McCoy block. This change will take effect at once. According to an official of the company its constantly growing business demanded the construction of large warehouses on the railroad and a convenient display and store room on Main street. The warehouses are now completed and the display room on Main street will be in full use by next Monday.

PROF. G. L. HOUK RETURNS

Prof. G. L. Houk, who has been taking a special course at N. C. State, in Administration under Dr. Highsmith, has returned to his home at Franklin. Dr. G. A. Bowden, of the University School, Cincinnati, who also took a course at N. C. State this summer, returned with Prof. Houk and was a week-end guest of Prof. and Mrs. Houk.

Mayor Patton to Make Address of Welcome—Hugh Monteith of Sylva to Respond—Big Picnic Dinner at Noon.

Hundreds of members of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics are expected in Franklin today for a district-wide meeting. District No. 1 comprises the six counties of Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Swain, Jackson, and Macon, and there are 21 councils in the district.

The meeting will get underway at 10 o'clock at the Macon county court house, with Jack Stribling, of Franklin, councilor of the local lodge, Cullasaja Council No. 158, presiding.

The meeting will open with the singing of "America," followed by the invocation, by J. W. Street, chaplain of the local lodge.

Visitors will be welcomed to Franklin by Mayor George B. Patton, with Hugh Monteith, councilor, Sylva Council No. 144, responding.

The chief address will be made by Dr. Ashley Chappell, pastor of Central Methodist church, Asheville. Other features of the morning's program will include singing by John Dalton's singing class, of Iotla, and by the Angel boys' quartette, of Cullasaja.

There will be sessions in the afternoon at 1:30 for the councilors of the district, the financial secretaries, and the recording secretaries. Harley Wilson, of Gay, councilor, New Savannah Council No. 282, will preside at the councilors meeting. Over the meeting of the financial secretaries, T. M. Rickman, of West's Mill, financial secretary of Cowee Council No. 485, will preside. And at the recording secretaries' session, the chair will be filled by B. W. Justice, of Franklin, Route No. 4, who is the recording secretary of Mill Shoal Council No. 246.

The farewell charge to the members will be delivered at the courthouse at 4 o'clock in the afternoon by Mr. Stribling, and the Rev. Alvin Solesbee will pronounce the benediction.

An important part of the day's program will come at noon, when, just back of the Masonic Hall, lunch baskets from the different sections of a half dozen mountain counties will be opened and spread out to make a picnic dinner of such variety and size as, perhaps, to surpass anything of the kind ever held in Macon county.

The nine councils in Macon county will be hosts at the day's events.

The local council will hold its regular meeting in the lodge hall at 8 o'clock tonight, and visiting Juniors are being given a very cordial invitation to attend.

Bible, Poker Chippis, Butcher Knife, Liquor

Two men, Jerome Ganich, white, and Julius Franklin, negro, a Ford coupe, 16 gallons of liquor, two butcher knives, a Bible, and a box of poker chippis—such was the assortment captured by Sheriff C. L. Ingram and deputies on the Franklin-Dillsboro highway, a few miles east of Franklin, late Wednesday of last week.

The sheriff's force ran around the rum running car to make the catch. The men said their home is in South Carolina, but they are vacationing in Asheville, they said.

The liquor was carried in a barrel and 12 half-gallon fruit jars. Lying on the seat between the two men, was a huge butcher knife, while another was found in the barrel of liquor.

In one of the men's pockets was a piece of literature, headed: "Lost or saved? Hell or heaven? Life or death? Which?" and on this was noted a name and address: "A. C. Thompson, T. & T. Service Station," believed by Ingram to have been the destination of the intoxicants.

The liquor was poured out, but latest reports indicated that Sheriff Ingram had not found any law with reference to how he should dispose of the Bible found alongside the poker chippis.