

The Franklin Press

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S. A. HARRIS..... Editor

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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?

All aboard for the county fair.

Six prisoners are still A. W. O. L.

Those who want sand as fertilizer might save money by hauling it out of the branch.

Let the cannery know about the amount of produce you will have and when it will be ready for canning.

Some of the tax payers are anxious to learn something of the financial status of the county.

Who wants to pan out the gold nuggets to be found in a purebred hog farm in Macon county?

The local P. T. A. will soon stage a play entitled LISTEN, LADY. If this show will cause a Franklin lady to listen, it will be the best show that ever came to this town.

Money spent on the present jail is money wasted, but is it worth while to build a new jail if prisoners are to be permitted to saw the bars without hindrance? The old jail will do very well for exercise of this kind.

The autumn colors of yellow, gold and brown are making their appearance on every hill and mountain in the county. Visitors who leave now will miss the finest season of the year in Western North Carolina.

For several weeks the job work at the Press office has been increasing in volume, necessitating the employment of another printer. This man is now at work and hereafter the Press will be in a position to take care of your wants in the printing line more promptly than ever before.

Business in Franklin for the past week has been exceedingly brisk. All merchants report a great volume of trade and attribute this in crease in business to visitors who have come from far and near to attend the sale of J. S. Porter & company. Many merchants also claim that the alleged scarcity of money in Macon county is a myth.

Franklin must have an adequate water supply and it is none too early to begin work. Let us hope that the town board will not postpone this matter until next spring. The town has had no fire in three years, but if a city fire should occur in the business section now, the citizens could do nothing except imitate Nero.

North Carolina Highway No. 28 from Hendersonville to Bat Cave, a distance of about 15 miles, has been paved with concrete and is one of the best mountain roads in the South. This section of road will be open to the public on September 9, and good road boosters from both the Carolinas and many summer visitors from other states will unite with Hendersonville in celebrating the event. There will be public speaking, a barbecue and a motorcade to Chimney Rock. Franklin should be represented at this celebration.

About a year ago quite a number of gallons of whiskey were stolen from Macon county's jail. Four weeks ago during the absence of both the sheriff and jailor six prisoners made

their escape. Monday of this week another prisoner walked out of the jail. In so far as the jail is concerned it seems to be high time that the proper officials get on their jobs and attend to their duties. What's the use of arresting and feeding prisoners at the expense of the county if they are to be permitted to escape whenever it suits their convenience to do so? Above all, why create an opportunity for prisoners to escape?

Since water for the municipality must be pumped, why not pump it from the river to Trimont mountain, where it could be filtered and carried by gravity to the water system of the town? This does not imply that the water would have to be pumped to the top of the mountain. In fact, a filtering system half way up the mountain would give plenty of pressure in Franklin. The water from Ray Cove would perhaps be of sufficient volume for several years. When more became a necessity the pump could be placed where more water is available and the same filtering plant used. We understand that the town board is now considering the matter of an adequate water supply. Their promptness is to be commended.

Living at Home

HERE'S an example of living at home: An elderly man—apparently a farmer—made this remark here a few days ago:

"I don't suppose I've bought two dollars worth of meat in my life."

And he added this:
"And I must have sold at least two thousand dollars worth."

And the man who said it probably could have made a similar statement about other commodities that can be grown in Macon county. He probably has never been rich, in money; but it's a safe bet that he never has wanted for any real necessity.

School Again

SCHOOL days are upon us again, and with them comes an end to summer fun, and a beginning of the winter routine. Which isn't as bad as it sounds.

Vacations and excursions and forgetting all about system and routine are well enough—pleasant, invigorating, sometimes even restful. But the best part of them is that, after a season, we are more than ready to get back to routine and hard work.

And so it is, one would probably find, with the youngsters. When the days begin to grow warm in the spring, the children are generally tired of the school room, and pine for the freedom of vacation and out-of-doors. But few there are who, by early September, aren't ready to get back to school again.

After all, work is the main stay of life—in more ways than one.

Who Would Stop Them?

PROPOSALS are being made that governments put a stop to trans-oceanic non-stop flights. Since the gray dawn of history there have been pioneers in every phase of human endeavor. This has been particularly true as regards methods of transportation. And during all these thousands of years the weak-kneed, the sissies, those lacking in good red blood, have entered protests against the activities of their more daring companions. We are inclined to believe that these protests are due more to envy than to any other cause. Without the pioneers our present civilization would have been impossible or at least retarded hundreds of years. There is not a man nor woman living who does not secretly admire the daring aviators who have given their lives in the cause of progress. Instead of placing a damper on aerial activities the nation should encourage others to fly across the oceans. Each failure brings nearer the desire of the human race to conquer the air.

An Opportunity For Good

ATTENTION is invited to an editorial from the Columbus Enquirer-Sun reprinted on this page. This editorial makes it plain that the value of a science research institute located in the South cannot be over estimated. Franklin has the opportunity to locate such an institute on the White Oak Flats near the head waters of the Nantahala. Dr. J. M. Reade, of the University of Georgia, has visited the White Oak Flats and considers this tract as an ideal site for an institute such as he has in mind. He is determined to establish an institute for research in the natural history sciences some where in the South. Franklin must offer the necessary inducements or the institute will go elsewhere. Not only will Dr. Reade's project be of great value, financially and otherwise, to Franklin, but it will serve to attract desirable visitors to all parts of Western North Carolina. Consequently not only Franklin, but Asheville and every town in the western part of the state should take an interest in the matter and pull together to locate the institute in this section of the state.

The Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer-Sun published in a city several hundreds miles from the proposed site of the institute is giving the proposition its unqualified support and approval, but

the dailies and weeklies of Western North Carolina, if we are to judge by their lack of editorial expression, seem to regard the matter as of no consequence.

Sand as Fertilizer

YEAR in and year out our farmers continue to buy sand for use as fertilizer. True, the sand is mixed in with potash, phosphate, etc. Each ton of commercial fertilizer has approximately 500 pounds of sand or some other worthless filler. The farmer who buys this kind of fertilizer not only pays for the sand but he pays freight on 500 pounds of worthless material. By buying the proper ingredients and mixing them at home, the farmer can save from six to twelve dollars per ton on fertilizers. With proper attention to his lands and with the use of barnyard fertilizer, and especially cover crops of the nitrogen-gathering variety, the average farmer should require very little commercial fertilizers. But until the lands are built up by these means a certain amount of guano will be necessary. Now, the question is: Shall our farmers continue to buy sand and pay freight on it or will they mix their own fertilizer and save the difference? Those who are in favor of the latter should consult with the county agent and learn the details of this money-saving method.

The Year Book of the department of agriculture of the United States in 1919 noted a saving by home mixing of \$18.25 per ton on 8-2-2 fertilizer. A few boards and a shovel will suffice for the mixing equipment. Those so foolish as to buy sand and place it under their crops deserve little sympathy when hard times roll around.

The Bread and Butter Show

THE MACON county fair, or "Bread and Butter Show," is announced for September 29 and 30 and October 1. It will be the first effort in a number of years to hold a fair in this county.

The fair will, of course, be primarily an agricultural proposition, and agriculture, naturally, stands to profit first and most from such a gathering together of farm exhibits.

An agricultural fair tends to prove profitable from three standpoints: It shows a community what can be done in an agricultural way within its borders; it shows the outsider what the agricultural possibilities are; and it has a tendency to stimulate greater and more intelligent effort on the part of the individual farmers.

But while it is the farmer who profits first and most from such an undertaking, he is not the only one benefitted. The value of an agricultural fair to the business man is more indirect, but no less definite.

Of the business man who feels that to support an agricultural fair is simply a matter of "helping the farmer," one would like to inquire where his business would be today without the farmer's trade. His success or failure is gauged to very large extent upon the prosperity or poverty of the farmer. And anything that tends to make for better and more profitable farming is entitled to his support—not so much from the standpoint of public-spirit as from that of enlightened selfishness.

The county agent deserves the commendation and unqualified support of farmers and business men alike in his efforts to put on a creditable bread and butter show.

Others' Comments

SOUTHERN INSTITUTE OF RESEARCH IN NATURAL HISTORY SCIENCE

SIXTEEN states in this country have biological stations for the study of natural sciences—animal, plant and tree life and marine life. California has four; Massachusetts, two; the District of Columbia, two; New York, six. Of the Southern states only Florida has such a station, the Tortugas Laboratory of the Carnegie Foundation of Washington at Key West. The Southern Appalachian section is unrepresented in this valuable and necessary branch of research and efforts are under way to remedy this lack by the establishment of a Sumer Camp Nature school somewhere in the Appalachian Highland of North Carolina or Georgia. We have before us a most intriguing circular regarding this effort from the hand of Professor J. M. Reade of the department of Botany of the University of Georgia.

The circular explains the plan in the following terms:

The opportunity for such a venture can scarcely be doubted. The mountain territory is the natural summer resort of a wide region, including Georgia, Florida, Alabama and to some extent at least the Carolinas, Mississippi and Tennessee. For all this region the mountains are fairly central and readily accessible. Visitors yearly find their way in from several directions and we know from experience with students in Athens that summer classes frequently have all these states represented.

Throughout the South there is a growing number of students, undergraduate and graduate, and of teachers in schools and small colleges, who should benefit by the camp. It offers them a way to use the long vacation to get recreation and re-

freshment for the year ahead and at the same time to improve themselves by study and association. To the student and teacher clientele must be added an increasing number of others. Leaders of girl and boy scouts, and similar organizations are among them, as are, too, persons concerned with public recreation and conservation. Both, then, the wide territory to be served and an abundant clientele are here.

These circumstances justify the proposition and they seem to say that the start should be easy and that success is reasonably assured. These circumstances are reason enough for the venture and the Camp Nature school is a worth-while end in itself. The ultimate aim which we have in view, however, is something else and the real and appealing reason is one that is very much more. It is no less than a proposition in behalf of higher education and the whole Southland. It is to make an institution for scientific research. That is the need of the day and the opportunity of the hour. It is the one point upon which there is unanimity. It is that of which we are most frequently reminded when we face the judgment of the world outside. Southern higher institutions, we are told, must take up their burden as places of research.

Several sites for this proposed camp have been inspected. The U. S. Forest Service encourages the use of a site in the Nantahala or Cherokee Forests. It is the policy of that service to encourage recreational use of the government lands. Leases are given for sites for summer cottages, camps, and the like. Such leases to private individuals are usually for short periods of a few years.

It is probable that more favorable terms and longer lease would be extended to an enterprise of this sort. It is a venture in the service of a wide public. It is an educational project and as such both in its teaching influence and in its researches it should be very helpful in the forest interests.

Should it be thought best for the Institute to own its own site from the beginning there are ideal locations near Franklin, N. C., or Clayton, Ga. The Chambers of Commerce of both these towns have indicated a lively interest in having the camp and either of these bodies would be willing to co-operate with the project. The survey of sites is still in progress, the Toccoa Basin, for instance, has not yet been investigated.

Of course there must be money in hand to carry out the plan for a research camp or station. An estimate has been made, based somewhat on the expense of other similar stations and it is believed that, given a site, \$10,000 will put up a physical plant and laboratories and \$15,000 will be a sufficient fund for three years' operation. The camp cannot be started until at least this much is in hand.

In speaking of the benefit to the immediate community of the presence of such a camp or institute, Professor Reade says:

The benefit of the school to the community should not be overlooked. We have made our plans and calculations on the basis of having twenty-five students. The number might never be larger. It may be best that it should not. But it is also possible that the number should grow and that the enrollment in a few years should reach one or two hundred. Mature students are quiet, respectable persons bent on self-improvement. Their presence and influence should be a stimulus to the local cause of schools and education. Returning home year after year they would scatter widely to as many points each to tell of a summer in the mountains. And since many of them would be teachers their story would be manifolded through their pupils.

Chancellor Snelling of the University of Georgia is earnestly interested in the plan and says in a letter to Professor Reade:

I am quite ready to say that in advocating provision for research you are advocating the right thing. I think that without question the foremost need in higher education in Georgia today is provision for scientific research. There is a lag for want of it felt throughout the South.

It has been many a day since anything has been presented to the ENQUIRER-SUN for consideration which has seemed as stimulating and worth-while as this proposed research camp. Why should our teachers and our young men and women students who are anxious to perfect their biological equipment for earning a living have to go to distant states for this equipment? Many of them now go to Woods Hole in Massachusetts or to Washington. At neither point are the surroundings as ideally adapted to botanical and biological research as they would be in the places mentioned, for it is conceded that the plant life of the Southern Appalachian region is the richest and most varied of any in the country and, indeed, there are few locales in the world which offer such natural advantages as the highland forests of North Carolina or Georgia.

The ENQUIRER-SUN sincerely hopes that this research camp may be established within a reasonable time and that cultivated citizens and lovers of the natural sciences in this section may be inspired to help raise the necessary funds.—Columbus (Ga.) Enquirer-Sun.