

The Franklin Press

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Foreign Advertising Representative
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?

Needed: A school supervisor for Macon county.

Now is the time to set more trees on the Georgia road.

The authorities in Alabama intend to see that floggings cease in that state. Floggers in Macon county can ply their trade without interference.

It has been more than three years since a building was burned in Franklin. However, two or three shack razers along Main street would help wonderfully.

Many children going to school walk on the streets instead of the sidewalks. Either the parents or the school authorities should see that this practice is stopped.

The Press is always glad to receive suggestions from citizens of the county regarding public questions. Send in your letters concerning any matters affecting the good of the county.

An investigation by the grand jury at the November term of court of the recent kidnaping case in Franklin will be the signal for three or four of Franklin's citizens to take to the "tall and uncut."

Hi Johnson is sponsoring the Boulder dam. Since Hi has never been accused of timidity perhaps the name appeals to him. Even at that it will take a bolder man than Hi to wheedle \$500,000,000 out of the American people.

The Standard Oil company is opening its new filling station on the square Saturday. This is one of the handsomest filling stations in the state and adds greatly to the appearance of that part of town. This station replaces an old shack that had stood there from time immemorial.

In this county of plentiful water there are several homes where water is carried almost half a mile. Estimating not less than six trips a day for water this means that someone walks 800 miles per year for water at each of these homes. Thus 50 eight hour days are spent in this way each year.

The people of Walnut creek, Cowee creek, Burningtown creek and fifty other creeks in the county need roads, but they will never have them until the county, instead of the township, is made the road unit. The man who represents Macon county in the next general assembly should be required to pledge himself to have the law in this respect changed.

The town board is proposing a bond issue of \$80,000 for water and sewers for Franklin. If the town is to continue to grow both water and sewers are necessary. However, we believe that the experiment of "shooting" the new well should be tried first. If that fails to produce more water, then let us have the bonds. In either case the town should issue bonds for sewers.

A big poultry meeting has been called for November 7 at the court house. It might pay those interested in raising chickens to investigate the possibilities of Kaffir corn as a source

of poultry food. Ask your county agent to tell you about Kaffir corn at the meeting mentioned. Mr. McGaha, living down on Cowee, can also give the public some valuable information concerning this corn.

Macon county's jail has been condemned by the state authorities and the county commissioners will soon be prohibited placing prisoners in this jail. The minute the jail ceases to be used as such the lot on which it stands will revert to the original owners, according to a statement recently made by one in authority. It now seems that the prisoners will have to be confined in the jail of some near-by county.

W. R. Hearst has bet Will Rogers \$10,000 to \$5,000 that Mr. Coolidge will not run for the presidency again. Will may find that his bet is totally without humor. In Hearst's case it seems to be a question of the wish being father to the bet. While the betting is good we will give odds of five to one that Hoover can be elected on either the Democratic or Republican ticket. We will make the odds ten to one that the politicians will not nominate this out-standing American.

Better days are in prospect for the poultry growers of Macon county provided they will lend the necessary co-operation. The county agent has called a meeting of the poultry raisers for 11 o'clock on Monday, November 7th, at the court house when he will endeavor to perfect plans in the way of organization looking to improvement in all lines of the poultry industry in this county. It behooves all those who desire better poultry and more economical methods to meet with the county agent on the date specified.

The Press has stated on more than one occasion that Franklin must have more water. The suggestion has been made that a charge of nitro-glycerine be exploded in the new well with the hopes of making it produce more water. For the past several months this well has been furnishing only forty or fifty gallons of water per minute. The pump used there is capable of pumping 120 gallons per minute. If the well can be made to furnish this amount of water, that would mean an additional supply of more than 100,000 gallons per day. The suggestion appears to us to be timely. This step might obviate the necessity of building a filtering plant to filter water pumped from the Cartoogechaye. At least it can do no harm to try the experiment.

A Game Sanctuary For Macon County

UNDER provisions of the 1927 Game Law, the State Game Commission has set about establishing, at various points in the state, game sanctuaries.

A game sanctuary is nothing more nor less than a protected breeding ground for game. The area is set aside, stocked with game, and then protected. Game which strays outside may be hunted, in season. But inside no hunting is permitted, at any time.

The effect of such a sanctuary, of course, tends to the re-stocking of the whole section with game.

One such sanctuary has already been established in Mitchell and Yancey counties. And there is discussion of another near Sylva. The natural question is Why not one in Macon county?

And the answer appears to lie largely in the fact that, so far as the Game Commission knows, Macon county people have no desire for such a game sanctuary within the county's borders. We haven't asked for it.

There are admirable places for such a game refuge in this county. The water-shed of Wayah Creek, for example, has been pointed out as affording an excellent breeding place for game. It is the property of the national government, and, for that reason, will remain in forest, and would have the protection of the national government as well as that of the state.

Macon county is not lacking in suitable locations for a game refuge. The game may be procured from the Pisgah National Forest. The county already has a host of citizens pledged to help protect such a sanctuary—members of the Nantahala Sportsmen's Association. All we lack is for the State Game Commission to set aside the area, and make provision for its protection.

The advantages to this county and section of such a game sanctuary surely are apparent. It would result in the county's becoming, within a few years, a hunting ground that would attract sportsmen from far and near—men who come to hunt, and while here spend some of their money; and it would provide hunting for our own sportsmen.

The average man, doubtless, will reply to all this, to about this effect: "I guess it would be all right—but what can I do about it?"

There are several things he can do about it. The most concrete and perhaps the most effective right now is to place himself on record as favorable to the project, and as ready to lend his influence to the protection of the sanctuary.

A local delegation is going to place the

matter before the Game Commission at Raleigh, and the arguments of that delegation would undoubtedly be strengthened by a petition, signed by a large number of citizens of the county. Copies of such a petition are now in circulation. Signing one of these is one of the things the average man can "do about it."

It is a pretty certain thing that the Game Commission isn't going to establish a large number of these sanctuaries in Western North Carolina. And if we don't get busy here in Macon county some counties no better suited for the propagation of game are going to get the sanctuaries—because their citizens asked for them.

Copies of the petition asking that a game sanctuary be established in this county, somewhere on the Nantahala National Forest, are at the following places: Citizens Bank, Bank of Franklin, J. S. Porter Company's store; the county agent's office, in the offices of Sheriff C. L. Ingram, Clerk of the County Frank I. Murray, County Commissioner Robert Cabe; and in the hands of Game Warden James Hauser and of Irvin Long.

If you want to see this county stocked once more with game of all sorts, take the trouble to sign this petition now, so that the Game Commission may know Macon county citizens are asking for a game sanctuary.

Sewers or Septic Tanks

THE PEOPLE of Franklin must have either sewers or septic tanks. Such is the edict of the district sanitary inspector with the state board of health. He says that cesspools in Franklin must go. Mr. Floyd is willing to grant a delay until next spring before enforcing the state laws. In other words he grants sufficient time for the town to extend the sewer lines to include all sections of the city. In the event that this is not done within a reasonable length of time the state authorities will require property owners to install septic tanks where no sewer connections are available. For the average family a septic tank, built according to state specifications, will cost from \$80 to \$125 he says. The inspector estimates that septic tanks in Franklin will cost the property owners anywhere from \$15,000 to \$20,000.

In order to continue growing Franklin must have more water and sewers. It is only a question of two or three years until the sewers will be extended. Such being the case it appears as unjust to require property owners to go to the expense of installing septic tanks now or within a few months. For several years those living away from the present sewer zone have been paying taxes on the bonds that paid for the sewer system. Some of the biggest property owners in Franklin, that is, those owning Main street property where the sewer system is in operation will no doubt raise a howl about extending the sewer lines. These property owners already have their sewers for which the entire town is paying. The people of East Franklin, West Franklin and those living on the southern and northern sections of town are also entitled to modern conveniences.

The increased value of vacant lots within reach of the new sewer lines will more than pay for the sewer extension.

Protect the Children

THE ROADWAY from Porter street to the school building should be paved. In wet weather it is absolutely impossible for cars to travel this short distance. Consequently the children must leave the buses and cars on Porter street and walk the remaining distance to the school. Porter street at this point is narrow and the consequent congestion is serious. It is only a question of time until a child will be killed at this point by a passing automobile. Probably not until then will steps be taken to remedy this matter. Other sections of streets in town have been paved as a convenience to property owners, but when the lives of children are at stake nothing seems to be done. As a matter of fact Porter street at this point should be widened so that there will be room for more than two cars to pass. The street to the school building should also be widened and paved and the site of the old school building made into a parking place. Incidentally the sidewalk leading to the school building from Porter street serves as a water drain in wet weather for twenty feet from the street. This is a detail which the janitor should be able to remedy.

Honey

MR. J. M. HEDDEN, who lives at the head of Walnut creek in this county came to Franklin last Friday with 1,000 pounds of excellent honey taken from 23 stands of bees. Mr. Hedden has 200 pounds more of honey at home. The honey brought to town is worth 25 or 30 cents per pound at current market prices or a total of \$250 or \$300. Since January first Mr. Hedden states that he has not given more than one week's time to his bees. Pretty nifty little sum for one week's work.

We wonder if the people of Macon county realize that an average of ten hives of bees to the farm would bring to the county an income of \$250,000 per year? This amount of money is worth a sting or two at least.

Others' Comments

PRESERVING LOCAL HISTORY

A CORRESPONDENT in Brevard commends The Times for its editorial urging the communities of Western North Carolina to establish museums for Indian and other relics, and to preserve in some sort of written form the local history of this region. He says, in part:

Commercial collectors and souvenir hunters have carried off tons of our relics and things of that kind that can never be replaced. Our first settlers and the heroes of the Civil War have passed out and, it seems, almost without an effort on the part of anyone to preserve our part of such history as we would like to retain. . . . I have heard and have heard of numbers of pioneer and hunting stories that would make interesting reading, if in print, but the chances of getting these things on record get more remote each day.

Our correspondent goes on to say that as a native of Macon county he has been interested in the Indians and in the Mound Builders, who "presumably occupied Western North Carolina" at one time. And this man would probably have compiled many valuable historical facts and collected many interesting relics, if he could have had some encouragement. He testifies that he has for the most part received official discouragement—apparently from officials in various counties.

He speaks of the county historians that have been appointed in Buncombe and other counties, expressing the hope that these official recorders of history will have the co-operation of the people. He mentions Mrs. Fred Siler of Franklin and Editor S. A. Harris of The Franklin Press as persons interested in local history. It would be a fine thing for Macon if Mrs. Siler or Mr. Harris, or both of them, could give some time regularly to the collecting of historical data and relics.

Buncombe county has been fortunate in having the benefits of the historical work of Dr. F. A. Sondley and Haywood Parker. General Theodore F. Davidson has made some valuable contributions to our history and if he could be persuaded to write the memories of his active life in this section, future historians would rise up and call him blessed.

Probably in every county, with or without an official historian, there is a small number of people who are doing what they can to preserve history. If from time to time all these persons could come together, with the county historians, and talk over their various interests, exchange ideas and plans of procedure, it would well serve the cause of conserving the history of these mountain counties. It is hard to work alone and without encouragement on such things, especially if one has another vocation that demands most of one's time and energy.

Would it not be a good idea to organize a Western North Carolina Historical Association?—The Asheville Times.

WHICH IS IT?

A GOOD town makes a good county and a good county makes a good town. Let's all pull together for a prosperous Hayesville and Clay county.—Clay County News.

The Baptists are great on Church expansion. They have just started a campaign to raise a fund of \$500,000 with which to build 17 churches in newly-settled sections of Chicago. Dr. George W. Truett, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, is heading this movement, and North Carolina folks who know Doctor Truett feel quite sure that these new Baptist churches in that fruitful missionary field will be built.—Charlotte Observer.

Letters

REGARDING TAXES AND PROMPT SETTLEMENTS

Scroll, N. C., October 11, 1927.
Dear editor:—Will you allow me space for a few words in your good paper?

Should this matter of a new court house and jail be settled by the tax payers?

Perhaps we do need a new jail but unless it were properly guarded prisoners would escape about as they have been escaping from the present jail.

I wonder how many people could pay their taxes for the present year if they were compelled, today. I dare say not one in ten could unless they let some other debt go. It is a greater struggle to eke out a living on the farm than many people in other walks of life would expect.

"The Pathfinder" of September 17, 1927 has the following quotation in the first paragraph on page 7: "Uncle Sam thinks that the 'pay-your-bills-promptly' slogan applies to home as well as foreign states, consequently, he has denied further road, school, health and other federal aid to Tennessee, Louisiana and North Carolina until they discharge their indebtedness to the government at Washington."

Hadn't individuals, county and state, better adopt the slogan, "pay your bills promptly?"
Thank you.
Yours truly, FAY M. MASHBURN.