

# The Franklin Press

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

S. A. HARRIS.....Editor

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(Subscriptions Payable in Advance)

One Year .....	\$1.50
Eight Months .....	1.00
Six Months .....	.75
Three Months .....	.40
Single Copies .....	5c

### ADVERTISING RATES

Very reasonable, and will be made known upon request.

We charge 5 cents a line for Cards of Thanks, Resolutions of Respect, and for notices of entertainments where admission is charged.

Entered at the post-office at Franklin, N. C., for transmission through the mails as second-class matter.

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?

Judging from the Aquone locals breakfast must be a sad affair on the Nantahala.

No, that's not thunder you hear—merely political rumblings.

Only a few weeks now until the bees begin for the season.

Those who recently "canned" the cannery will be canning at the cannery during the coming canning season.

Don't fail to read the two farm pages this week. The county agent is giving the farmers something to think about.

Get set for the resumption of cannery operations in the spring. Those who have taken occasion to deride the local cannery have a surprise in store for themselves.

A carload of Guernsey heifers reached Franklin last week. It seems to be a matter of only a few years until the capacity of the local creamery will have to be enlarged.

Baby chicks are beginning to arrive by mail. The owners will receive about 45 cents per pound when these chicks are ready for the market. Those who wait for the old hen "to set" will get around 20 or 25 cents per pound for her progeny.

Some counties with five or ten times the population of Macon are boasting that they have nearly 300 members in their 4-H club. Macon has 317 members and is still going strongly. We look for 400 members before March 1st.

The Press has failed to remove from its subscription list the names of those whose subscriptions expired in January. Such names will be removed after this week. May we suggest that you look at the label on your paper to see if your name is among the number to be removed?

Our country correspondents are requested to send in the news. Some have written nothing in six months. If this keeps up we will be compelled to get others to send community happenings to The Press. Letters should reach this office on or before Tuesday noon of each week. Be sure to include items of the farms and what the farmers are doing.

A majority of the citizens of the county appear to be opposed to a bond issue for building a jail and court house combined. Now, according to reports, petitions are in circulation in opposition to building a jail. These petitions should circulate freely. It appears to us a waste on money to build a jail at the present time. Within a few years the citizens of the county will no doubt approve the building of a jail and court house combined and thus save the county almost the cost of a jail. In the mean time, of course, the county will be put to the expense of keeping its prisoners in the jail of another county. However, this will save the tax payers money in the long run.

Read the names of the 4-H club members on the farm pages. This is an imposing list and one that is destined to make agricultural history in Macon county. Particular attention is invited to the large number of members

from Scroll, Kyle and Shookville. Communities like these located at quite a distance from the markets and reached only by bad roads would naturally be expected to take little or no interest in 4-H club work. Yet these communities stand near the top in the number of members. However, when we find boys living in one of these communities walking to school in Franklin, a distance of 12 miles, with the thermometer standing at several degrees below zero, we are not surprised that their neighboring boys and girls join the 4-H club.

The Press is delighted to announce that hereafter news from the Maxwell School will be published from time to time. Recently the school has taken on new life and our correspondent at the school will keep the public informed of what is taking place at this orphanage. This school is doing excellent work in training the minds and hands of its students. As a general rule the citizens of the county have taken little interest in Maxwell School. We believe that this lack of interest is due principally to lack of information concerning the work there. The Press will do its part in placing the work of this school before the public in its proper light with the result, we hope, of making the citizens of Macon county acquainted with this valuable asset to the county.

### Strawberries vs Corn

THE CANNERY will be prepared to buy all the strawberries that are grown in the county at \$1.50 per crate of 24 quarts. The soil in this county, it is stated, will grow 200 crates to the acre and more under favorable conditions. Thus the grower can realize \$300 per acre less expenses. We are told that the work growing strawberries is no more than that required to grow corn. Official statistics give the average number of bushels of corn per acre in Macon county as fifteen. But, for the sake of argument, say that the average is forty bushels to the acre and that the average price is \$1.00 per bushel. These figures would indicate a balance in favor of strawberries of \$260.00 an acre. Worth thinking about at least. The cannery will furnish crates and baskets free of charge.

DURING the years from 1920 to 1925 the number of horses in the United States decreased about 25 per cent. At the same time, the number of tractors in use increased almost 100 per cent. The new regime on the farm had begun in earnest.

The obvious duties of the tractor, road-building, plowing and like hard work, were quickly appreciated. Its variety of new uses seem endless. It has become an integral part of logging camps, it carries supplies across difficult country, it digs irrigation ditches, and moves houses. The back-breaking task of transplanting celery has been made easy; and recently it has been used to help in the extermination of grasshoppers.

One of the most efficient instruments of war has become the tool-of-all-work of peace. Our great mechanical age could be proud had it produced only the tractor.

### Community Boosting

BEGINNING with this issue The Press will publish each month a full page advertisement boosting the town and the county. Twenty-five firms representing practically all lines of business in the town have signed this advertisement and are paying for its publication. These men believe in Franklin and the county and are advertising this fact. They are evidencing a public spirit not usually found in a town of this size. By utilizing the columns of the local paper to express their profound confidence in the present and future of this community they are taking one of the most practical ways to obtain the best results. Since the signers of these advertisements are doing their part to boost the county and the town it is nothing but right that the public should show them consideration in a business way.

### To the 4-H Club Members

WITH A membership of 317 in its 4-H club Macon county now has one of the largest clubs in the state. The Press congratulates the youth of the county on the enthusiasm they are showing in the many activities of this club. The entire county is deeply interested in the success of its members. But in order to be successful each member should keep in touch with what is going on in the county along agricultural lines. Each week The Press is devoting two pages in the interest of farming and no club member should fail to read the messages of the county agent on these pages in every issue of this paper. We realize that many of the boys and girls have no money with which to subscribe to The Press, but as an inducement for them to read the information from the office of the county agent each week, we are making a special rate of one dollar per year to club members only. This offer holds only until March 1st of this year. Those who subscribe after that will have to pay the regular rate of \$1.50. Any subscription received at the special rate must carry with it the statement that the subscriber is a member of the 4-H

club of Macon county. No subscription for less than a year will be received at the special rate.

The Press is making this concession at the request of the county agent and as its contribution to the success of the 4-H club of Macon county.

### An Important Meeting

NEXT Monday, January 30, is the day specified for the meeting at the court house to give the tax payers an opportunity to approve or protest the building of a county jail. In the absence of sufficient opposition the commissioners, as we understand the matter, will have no choice other than to proceed with the construction. There is a great deal of talk going the rounds that a jail can be built for \$20,000 or \$25,000. The tax payers must realize that the laws of the state require certain specifications in a jail. The cost of a new jail to meet state requirements will certainly be not less than the \$70,000 proposed as a bond issue for the purpose—probably considerably more. If the tax payers of the county want this additional tax to pay, all they have to do is to stay at home on Monday of next week and later make their settlements with the tax collector. It's up to the tax payers. Understand that the commissioners must build a jail or subject themselves to indictment. However, if the tax payers refuse to sanction a jail, then no jury in the county would convict the commissioners for failure to build one.

### Others' Comments

#### DOWN WITH THE OLD JAIL AND UP WITH THE NEW

WELL, I wonder. What do you think? The old jail is legally condemned. It must and needs to be destroyed. That's that. Do we want or need a new, and when, and how? I have my ideas and here they are. We do not need a jail. The majority of offenders who go to jail are petty cases—a quart or so of liquor, or a minor quarrel. They are entitled to a prompt hearing. Judge Carpenter or Judge Rickman gives them one. He

from \$25 to \$1,000 to appear at the next term of court. This cash is deposited to the credit of the county until the trial, it is declared forfeited and the county has the money and no expensive trial on hand. Next comes Sheriff Ingram with a real bootlegger, too big for Judge Carpenter. As the law he works under is a Federal law, not Macon county, or North Carolina law, the prisoner is a Federal prisoner. Our sheriff sends word to the nearest Federal enforcement officer to come and get the prisoner, and do what he—well pleases with him. That prisoner does not belong in a Macon county jail, so no jail is needed. But now a real criminal appears in Macon county—a Hickman, or a killing bank bandit. Our officers catch him red handed. What to do with him or them? No jail to hold them until tried in court. We give them "Mexican Justice" right then and there. The sheriff decides that his bird is a "bad one." He tells him so, and suggests quietly that he should "beat it" down the road. The killer starts off and is promptly shot dead for attempting to escape. If he will not attempt to escape, he is shot for resisting an officer. The law has been upheld, justice done, no jail—and no expense to the county. If Ingram will not keep his job that way there are other men who will. When court meets there are no criminal cases to try—no expense to county—and we are the most law abiding county in the state. Let's try it! The only losers are one or two "criminal lawyers"—who need the same medicine—and our friends—the "Sons of Rest"—who want the entertainment of trial at court. Do we need a jail for them? Well, I wonder. What do you think?

Yours truly, GEORGE THE FURST (not related to George the Third, or Kaiser Bill).

### Letters

EDITOR Press:—Please allow me space in your valued columns to give a hearty "Amen" to what "Mr. A. Subscriber" had to say in regard to the people's problems in Macon county, especially the farming class, and I will include big farmers, too.

If we ever solve our problems satisfactorily we must learn to speak out, and I don't know of a better way than through the columns of The Press.

Our most serious problems are, as I see them, schools, roads, a fair election law, and taxes, all of about equal importance because they are so linked together that in reality it is one big county problem.

As to schools we have been traveling in the right direction in certain accessible localities, and in inaccessible places I am afraid not. Picture for yourself a child from a large family starting in school at six. If it is active and alert finishes the grammar grades at twelve. The parents are unable to send the child away from home to one of the three high schools of the county and besides he is

too young to put among strangers, risking the chance of undesirable habits with no parental restraint. The law says you must go to school and the order at the same time forbids the local teacher, though a college graduate and with ample time in a small school, or a two or three-teacher school, of giving instruction to him beyond the seventh grade. I have been told this condition exists, or if not at present are likely to soon.

Then comes roads. I have lived in this county eleven years and since I came there has not been a permanent improvement on the road I travel from home to the county seat, except for about one-fourth the way which is concrete, although my taxes are five fold what they were when I came and I would be glad to sell for my investment plus 6 per cent interest. And the increase, they say, largely for roads.

As to the election law, well it is unspeakably disgraceful or disgraced so we will not discuss that at all.

As to taxes, I will say that forty per cent of the farmers of the county, and I believe more, do something other than farming to raise their tax money.

I hear numbers of farmers say they would be glad to lease their farms for a number of years for their upkeep and taxes.

Now what do you business men think of that for an investment. But we have the farms on our hands and are unable to turn loose.

Do you know that one-tenth the value of your farm is mortgaged to these bondholders and other creditors?

Do you know that the interest on our indebtedness amounts to thirty-seven thousand dollars plus annually?

Do you know that the interest on the cost of building a combined courthouse and jail for five years will build a jail? And most all of us have agreed that the present court house will serve us several years to come.

Eleven years ago our county was debt free. Today in debt three-fourths of a million dollars. Who feels we have received our money's worth? Another eleven of radical progressivism at the same rate and we had better turn our farms over to the sheriff and leave the county.

Let's hear from someone in defense of all

twenty odd thousand invested in a set of books, etc, that are already in the discard.

It is not good to look at one side too long so we close.

Respectfully,

JOHN C. FERGUSON.

Everett, Washington.

Major S. A. Harris,  
Editor of The Franklin Press,  
Franklin, N. C.

Dear Sir: Being a recipient of your paper came across your comments in regard to the poultry and dairy business of the South and am in hearty accord with your views, as I believe that in your community each party if sufficiently interested to turn their talents to the study and application of these programs can make a comfortable return on their investment.

Am mailing to you under separate cover one issue of our local paper carrying an article on what has been done with the poultry industry in our county, which shows that the same is on the increase very rapidly, and which is also reflected in the article regarding the bank deposits for the City of Everett. Would say that there are also twelve other banks in this county which are not included in these statistics.

When the writer came to this country in 1886 this county was practically virgin and had but a few cow paths running through the timber and after the land became logged that which was suitable was truned into agriculture land with the principle industry being poultry and dairy, but they also raise quite a few sheep and some hogs.

Altho the writer is no longer a resident of Macon county, he retains his interest in the welfare of those good people and is sending this article to assist you in presenting the facts before our mutual friends.

Would say that the article referring to the poultry business does not represent the full production as it covers only those affiliated with the association and believe that if the entire industry was covered that these figures would be increased by about thirty per cent.

Yours very truly,

H. O. SILER.

Raleigh, N. C., January 20, 1928.

Major S. A. Harris, Editor,  
The Press,  
Franklin, N. C.

Dear Major Harris: I am pleased to learn through Mr. C. N. Mease, Deputy Game and Fish Commissioner, that you have agreed to serve on the committee with reference to game refuge being known as Wayah Bald State Game Refuge on the Nantahala Mountains in Macon county. This department is much interested as you know in making a success of this project. I will be glad therefore to have any suggestions and advice from you at any time.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,  
WADE H. PHILLIPS, Director.