

The Franklin Press
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

S. A. HARRIS, Editor

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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?

Better get that chestnut timber out before the blight hits it.

The Smoky Mountain Park will smoke many a man out of the "slough of despond."

Somebody is now weighing the earth. What bothers us is where the Sam Hill they set

Hal Slagle has a Guernsey bull with a pedigree that will reach from Franklin to Timbuctoo.

Judging from sound alone the post office these days is nothing more nor less than a brooder house.

One prospective candidate has been in town more times in the last three weeks than in the previous three years.

Speaking of competition a citizen of Franklin says that now-a-days one can see almost as many people at church as at the bridge club.

Scores of 4-H club boys and girls are preparing to grow produce for the cannery. Watch 'em yank pa and ma out of that fifty-year snooze.

Those who are leaving for distant points to seek employment had better remain at home. There is plenty of work to do in Macon county, but few workers.

The government wants a suitable building for a post office. Mighty good chance for some man to get a juicy contract from Uncle Sam for ten years.

Want to save the good wife a walk of two hundred or three hundred miles each year? If so, bring the spring to the home in a pipe. But—"gramma toted water and so can ma."

At the county fair next fall watch the 4-H club boys and girls put us old timers to shame. They have no preconceived notions of the efficacy of following in the footsteps of grand dad.

In these days and times \$2,730.22 sounds like a nifty little sum of money—and it is. That's what 205 farmers received here Monday for poultry, an average of a little more than \$13 each. This will go quite a distance in paying taxes.

Read the notice in this issue signed by the sheriff regarding payment of taxes. The law requires that taxes be paid and the sheriff as tax collector has no discretion in the matter. The Press sincerely hopes that it will not be necessary to advertise any lands for payment of taxes.

One hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty dollars per acre for strawberries when sold at the cannery. But let's grow some of the old fashioned crops. If they do well the grower might make a profit of twenty dollars per acre. Dad and grand dad knew what they were doing.

Two hundred thoroughbred hens on each farm in Macon county means an additional income for the county of \$1,000,000 per year. Ten hives of bees on each farm will increase this amount by a quarter of a million. But let's stick to corn and wheat just like our granddaddies did.

Miss Bernice Durgin, of Highlands, has undertaken the work of instructing the 4-H club girls of Highlands and vicinity in their work. Miss Durgin is doing this without remuneration and is thereby setting an excellent example that might well be followed in other sections of the county.

This issue of The Press ends the controversy that has been raging about North Skeenah as to whether or not that section of the country is infested with bootleggers and if so how many and why. We have on hand several letters from that neighborhood that will find their way into the waste basket. These letters call names and are otherwise naughty, not to say libelous. We advise the good people of North Skeenah to quiet down and be neighborly again.

Lee Barnard, undoubtedly the most optimistic man in Macon county, and the town's best friend, has offered for the use of the public a free camp site near the foot of Trimont mountain. The town board will be requested to extend the lines of the municipal system to the camp so that tourists may have the convenience of electric lights. We know of no place where a hundred dollars could be more wisely expended and no doubt the board will take this same view of the matter.

A citizen of Macon county recently found in a mail order advertisement a set of automobile tires for the small sum of \$8.00. After paying postage, cost of money order, etc., the tires cost this man \$10.00. Jubilant at "putting the local tire dealers out of business" he examined the casings and found them to be second hand and thin as paper. The worn parts had been painted over with a rubber solution. In fact the tires were not worth the trouble of putting them on the wheels. This money is gone forever and so is this man's faith in ordering goods sight unseen. Better trade with friends at home and

time and efforts to the public good and say nothing about the pay. That they realize their responsibilities and are thoroughly interested in their work was manifested here last Saturday at the fire wardens convention held at the court house. Many men came from distant parts of the county to be present with no mileage allowed for the trip. With such public spirited men at the helm the county may rest assured that nothing will be left undone to prevent fires and suppress fires in the forests of Macon.

Free City Delivery

UNDER ordinary conditions postal receipts are an excellent indication of the amount of business done in a town. Though there are four towns in the state west of Waynesville each with more population than Franklin still there are only two second class post offices in the section mentioned—Franklin and Murphy. Within the past four years the postal receipts here from box rentals and sale of stamps have increased from \$7,000 per year to \$9,000 per year. It is estimated that the post office here sells about \$40,000 worth of money orders per year and cashes approximately \$30,000 worth. When the postal receipts here reach the ten thousand dollar mark this town can have free postal delivery, provided the sidewalks meet government demands and that the houses are numbered. Those in a position to know claim that the receipts here will justify free city delivery in two years. Therefore it is suggested that the town be making proper preparations for this event.

The fact that Franklin is a second class post office shows that a remarkable amount of business is carried on for a town of this size. The need for better postal facilities in the way of a better building and modern equipment is imperative. The town hopes that some public spirited man will construct a suitable building and have it ready by August first. Postmaster Sam Franks is to be congratulated on increasing the postal receipts here to the extent of placing this office in the second class.

The Power Plant

A big power company of the South is ready to negotiate with the Town of Franklin for the purchase of the municipally owned power plant. At the time the dam was built the town was badly in need of power and the town board acted wisely in building the plant. However, the principle of municipalities owning and operating public utilities is wrong from any angle and will never pan out to the best interests of the tax payers. The sale of Franklin's power plant should result in a reduction in taxes amounting to nearly one-half. In addition the county would have placed upon its tax books another property worth over three hundred thousand dollars, bringing an additional income to the county under the present rate, of \$4,740 per year.

Municipalities all over the United States are selling their power plants as fast as they can find buyers. It is only a question of a short time until big power companies will be building dams in all parts of the county. The first thing the citizens of Franklin know they will find the town bottled up in so far as power is concerned with no possibility of selling current anywhere other than within the town limits.

If the town had a city manager form of government and a good man at the helm, one who could and would get industries here to utilize the surplus power, we would be in favor of giving the dam a further trial. At present the town has seven bosses who meet for an hour or two once a month to conduct the affairs of a corporation worth one and a half million dollars. Such a system never has and never will work to the advantage of the tax payers. Incidentally, why not call an election with a view to changing the form of Franklin's government?

Others' Comments

AN IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENT AT FRANKLIN

WITH THE purchase at Franklin of the Lake Emory holdings by Dr. L. G. Rouse, the Macon county seat goes much farther on the way to its logical development as a summer resort. Dr. Rouse, a Mississippian, and his associates plan to build houses and open streets in the 500-acre tract which has three miles of lake frontage. The announcement calls attention to the number of beautiful building sites, and it is believed that they will not long remain unoccupied.

Lake Emory is one of the most beautiful bodies of water in the mountain region. It skirts a town that is itself located on a beautiful plateau overlooking the Little Tennessee River. Late years have brought to Franklin and Macon not only highway connection with the rest of the country, but also a system of county roads that is most creditable to the people of Macon.

To the west of Franklin rises the Nantaha

range, with its valleys, streams and high peaks that make it a natural playground for the people of mountainless regions. In that section there is now set apart a game refuge; in a short time Macon will offer good hunting to its visitors. The new state law and the co-operation of the people are repopulating the mountain streams with fish. It is no mere boosting propaganda to say that Macon county and Franklin have before them a fine prospect for material and social advancement.—Asheville Times.

WHO'LL GET THIS PROVINCE?

CHEROKEE COUNTY is making a bid for a large and juicy slice of Macon county, according to reports from both counties. The Franklin Press learns that Cherokee has long been casting covetous eyes on a strip of territory in the Nantahala section of Macon, comprising about 80 square miles and being noted for its scenery and fishing.

Looking for a cause behind an allegation of affections alienated, one reads that the Macon citizens of the Flats and Kyle sections feel that the parent county has long and sadly neglected them in the matter of good roads. It is said that Cherokee is horrified over this state of affairs and, what is more to the point, has promised to build these people a hard-surfaced road to connect with State Highway No. 10.

The Press quotes one Macon county official giving notice to all and sundry that Macon will never submit to this proposed political surgical operation without a fight that will arouse the echoes and send them rolling up and down the Nantahala gorge and around Wayah Bald.

It will at once occur to outsiders that Macon may have to fight promise with promise on this matter of highway connection. The people of the territory in question are pretty much isolated, too much so for this good roads era, it would seem from the arguments submitted.—Asheville Times.

Letters

Highlands, N. C., March 12, 1928.

Dear Mr. Editor:

There has been considerable said of the expense our county is put to in employing a county demonstrator and of the added tax

Now Mr. Farmer, don't you really believe instead of grumbling and staying away from meeting, it might perhaps be a good idea to go and hear what this man has to say on the subject? None of us know so much we cannot learn from somebody who knows something, we perhaps do not know, and this man has been educated for this particular line of work. He has spent good money to learn his vocation. He studies and knows the composition of soils, just what fertilizer is needed to make the most out of the soils in different localities. In fact, he knows a lot of things that we could profit by and if we are paying this man, why not get our money's worth and go and learn.

We all know there are acres of land around this country which have been cultivated and are now lying idle. Instead of kicking why not go to work and try and make more out of the resources we have at hand. It can be done. The farmer could be the most independent man on earth, a true aristocrat of the soil. He could make his home and the farm so attractive his boys and girls would not want to leave the farm.

The Chinese, I am told, make the very most they can on every foot of ground. We might pattern after them in that respect.

You say it takes money to carry out all these ideas, of course it does. It takes money to make money. If, however, we make more by carrying out these improved methods of farming, making our profits greater, why complain?

We do pay more taxes than in the old days but on the other hand, we have so much more to make living easier. We can really see we are getting so much more for our taxes than in the old days. It is human nature to grumble about taxes and always has been from the beginning.

None of us have any desire to go back to the old way of living so let's "off with the old and on with the new" and live up to the motto of the 4-H club, "Make the best better."

A. L. M.

Portland, Oregon, March 2, 1928.

S. A. Harris,
Franklin, N. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find a post office money order for \$1.50 to pay for The Franklin Press for another year.

Enjoy reading each week about the progress the farmers of Macon county are making. Here is hoping they will have a good crop year.

Enclosed is a clipping taken from The Portland News of March 1, telling about the cow in a million. Maybe some day a Macon county cow will be the queen!

Yours sincerely,

MRS. ALBERT E. SKAGGS,
212 E-85th St., Portland, Oregon.