

The Franklin Press

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

S. A. HARRIS, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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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.

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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.
- 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?

Get your exhibits ready for the county fair.

An improved airport is badly needed at Franklin.

Franklin now has the opportunity of making a white way of Main street. We commend this proposition to the town board.

Those in the rural sections of the county

We shall be very glad when the presidential campaign is over. One can then listen to something worthwhile over the radio.

So far as we are able to observe the sentiment in this county is fast crystallizing in favor of clean politics.

Just a little more than a month now until Macon county will have the opportunity of telling the world what it thinks of dirty politics.

Judging by the promptness of the Enka corporation in starting work on the rayon plant at Asheville, the Americans are not the only ones who can do business in a hurry.

The state has already returned to some counties a portion of the money borrowed for road work. However, Macon is still holding the bag.

The work of grading No. 28 through the Cullasaja gorge is now nearing the Dry Falls. The grading of this road to Highlands should be completed about the time the golf course in that town is ready for business.

Will Rogers says that "Corruption and golf are two things we just as well make up our minds to take up, for they are both going to be with us." We did not know that Will had visited this county.

And now comes some old cooter up in Baltimore who claims that he took a drink with Senator Curtis in 1927. A man who will take a drink with a friend and then tell about it is the lowest form of the genus homo.

Bruce of Maryland is succeeding in making many votes for the Republicans while McCinch of North Carolina is a great help to Al Smith. In fact he will just about cinch the state for Democrats.

The columns of this paper are open to any one—Democrat, Republican or whatnot—who desires to discuss matters of interest to the citizens. However, no communication containing libelous matter will be published.

On this page is a very sensible letter from Jack Stribling. The Press would be glad to have communications from others who desire to discuss the political situation in Macon county.

There is not a man in the county who can bring a word of reproach against Bob Shook, a candidate for sheriff. If Bob is elected the public may rest assured that his election was brought about by fair and honorable means.

Matt Ray was the only colored man to cast a vote on the sale of the power plant. We

are mighty glad to see a man of Uncle Matt's race taking an interest in the affairs of his town.

Mr. Tom Slagle laments how the game of football is "just a little bit rough." He says his first game here last Friday and will no doubt be present the coming Friday along with several hundred other Macon county citizens.

In a paid advertisement found in this issue Mr. Sisk is asking Mr. Porter how he stands on the question of voting for Al Smith. Of course Mr. Porter will have the same privilege of asking Mr. Sisk any questions deemed proper.

Locals from Highlands, North Skeenah and Scroll were received too late last week to get in the Press. May we again advise that locals from country correspondents must reach this office not later than 3 p. m. on Tuesdays of each week.

Beginning Thursday half the population of Franklin will knock off work in the afternoons to hear the scores of the championship baseball games. It is even rumored that W. B. Lenoir and Zeb Angel will listen in on the radio. We call the attention of Mr. Lenoir to the fact that St. Louis is again one of the participants.

Some of Macon county citizens are reported at work grading the grounds on Hominy creek where the Enka corporation will build the largest rayon plant in the world. We predict that others will soon have the opportunity to do similar work in Franklin. Asheville's industrial expansion will include all of Western North Carolina.

Regardless of whether one agrees with Al Smith or not, he must be admired for making his position clear on all issues between the two parties. Al is the first presidential candidate in years who has had the courage to express his opinions on public matters in no uncertain terms. A few candidates in Macon county with courage of this kind would help clear up the situation to a considerable extent.

the league prepare a questionnaire the candidates will not dare ignore it. The matter of ignoring the League's questionnaire has been tried in this county and found to be a losing proposition. The farmers of this county and their good wives not only want electric lights in their home but they want light on how the candidates stand on various questions affecting the interest of the county. The Press will be glad to make these views public.

We have been cussed from A to Z for the fight this paper is making on political crookedness in Macon county. Without the backing of the upright citizens of the county The Press can do nothing to mend matters. Along with the abuse this paper has also received much commendation for its efforts to purify the political atmosphere. But patting the editor on the back does not help to cure the political cancer. Men and women who want clean politics should express their opinions through the columns of this paper. So long as the public remains indifferent the crooks will continue their nefarious practices.

Blind Voting

AS WE go to press this week no replies to the questionnaire published in the last issue of this paper had been received. Of course it is somewhat early yet for the candidates for commissioner to have made up their minds concerning the answers. However, the public is anxiously awaiting replies so that the voters may determine how to cast their ballots. Since the publication of the questionnaire a number of voters have told this paper that they do not wish to vote blindly and that, consequently, they hope the candidates will make reply in due time.

Cannery Needs Equipment

THAT ADDITIONAL equipment for the local cannery is needed to the extent of approximately \$10,000 was made evident Saturday in a conversation with the superintendent, Mr. Jonathan Case. Mr. Case had many orders in his pocket that he was unable to fill. One of these orders called for 400 cases of peaches. All the products canned this season have been sold, the entire output amounting to something over 200,000 cans of various sizes. Mr. Case states that he could easily have sold one million cans provided sufficient funds had been on hand with which to buy the raw produce.

The cannery needs equipment for taking the grains off the corn cobs and for utilizing the entire apple crop of the county. The latter crop amounts to considerable proportions in this county. Apples not suitable for canning can be utilized in making vinegar. Equipment for making jellies, jams and preserves is also needed.

The cannery has been very successful this season, but to reach its maximum benefits to the farmers of Macon county more funds

must be provided and more equipment must be installed. Just how to bring about these desired ends is a question that should be given careful consideration by those in charge. It is to be hoped that the necessary funds can be provided by the co-operative plan under which the cannery now operates.

Due to lack of funds \$40,000 worth of blackberries went to waste in Macon county this year. Due to lack of necessary equipment to handle the apple crop thousands of bushels of apples are now rotting in this county. Let us hope that some plan for providing funds may be adopted that will make the cannery worth \$100,000 to the farmers of Macon next year.

The County Fair

THE COUNTY FAIR will be held this year on the school grounds at Franklin on October 25, 26 and 27. Quite a number of excellent prizes are offered for the best exhibits. Whether or not the fair is a success depends almost entirely upon the farmers and the 4-H club members. We are quite sure that the club members will do their part and there appears to be no reason to doubt that the farmers and their wives will be anxious to place exhibits.

In connection with the fair it should be remembered that Macon county is large in area and that farmers all over the county are getting results along lines of which their close neighbors in many instances are in ignorance. Hence the fair is the only opportunity for the tillers of the soil to learn what is being accomplished in the county. It is suggested that those wishing to place exhibits notify the county agent at once so that the necessary space may be reserved.

Light in Rural Homes

THAT THE people of Franklin are intensely interested in the development and growth of the town was amply demonstrated here Tuesday of last week when only two votes were cast against the sale of the power plant. However, the citizens of the town are not the only ones interested in the sale. The men and women of the rural sections are more concerned, if possible, than those living in town. Since the power plant was completed the rural population has been pleading for light in rural homes.

Since the election the county agent's office has been swamped with men from the rural sections of the county who have been inquiring about what steps they must take to get power and light lines to their homes. A number of farmers are already planning on building new homes and new barns and they want to wire these buildings during the course of construction.

While The Press has no authority to state what the Jupollo Public Service company will do in connection with rural lines, it is safe to state that those living within a radius of ten miles of town, particularly in the thickly settled communities, may depend upon electricity in their homes. So that the power company may have some idea of the demand for current in the rural sections of the county it is suggested that farmers who desire this convenience leave their names with the county agent. Lines will probably first be built to those communities where the demand for light is greatest. It will expedite matters considerably if a man from each community will make a canvass of his section and report the result to the county agent.

A Vote For Progress

THE AFFIRMATIVE vote for the sale of the municipal power plant is a vote for progress. Under municipal management the plant has been in operation for nearly three years and, with the exception of the mica companies, no industrial enterprises have come to Franklin to utilize the surplus power. As we have before stated the town board must not be censured for this lack of development. These men receive little salary for the time devoted to the town's interest. They have their own living to make and consequently can not be expected to devote any considerable amount of time to obtaining new industries for the town. Even though they had the time their efforts along this line would prove futile, since they are not in touch with industries that are seeking places to locate.

Now that the power plant is soon to be delivered to the Jupollo Public Service company, let us consider for a moment the pledges of that company's president and what these pledges will mean to Franklin. Since Mr. Mead first came to Franklin his every action has been open and above board. He has attempted no sharp practices. In fact he has made every concession to the citizens of Franklin. Consequently we believe that his pledges are to be taken at their face value. First, he gives a pledge of fair dealing with the public of Franklin and surrounding community. Many have the idea that all power companies attempt to gouge the public to the

full extent allowed by law. In some instances this may be true, but judging from the record so far we do not believe that such will be the case at Franklin. In fact Mr. Mead has already agreed to lower the light rates from 12 to 10 cents per kilowatt and to make certain reduction on other rates. He did this as a voluntary act and was in no way forced to make such concessions. Mr. Mead further pledges his untiring efforts to the development of Franklin and to help finance worthy projects that will bring prosperity to the town and community. It goes without saying that Mr. Mead has not purchased the power plant with the intention of letting the surplus power go to waste. It likewise is apparent that a company of this kind is in touch with industrial enterprises that are seeking favorable locations. Hence the citizens of Franklin may expect that new industries will soon locate here bringing with them an increase of population and placing on the tax digest more taxable property.

The sale of the power plant will reduce city taxes from \$1.40 to at least one dollar on the hundred. Thus will Franklin have the lowest tax rate of any town in Western North Carolina. This rate will naturally appeal to those who wish to invest. All in all the future of the town seems assured. This is particularly true when taken in connection with the proposed development of the Lake Emory holdings.

Letters

STRIBLING SPEAKS HIS MIND

Franklin, N. C., Oct. 2, 1928.

The Franklin Press, Franklin, N. C.

Gentlemen:—I have been requested by several citizens to write this letter with the object in view of starting a general discussion as to the best methods to pursue to correct the evils of corruption in county elections. This letter is not written for the purpose of creating any ill will, but solely in the interest of arousing the good citizenship of Macon against the dangers that now confront the county. It would appear that it is the duty of every upright citizen to make the utmost efforts to guarantee clean politics in our county. The most obvious cause of corruption

repealed and our representative should show Macon county the effects of his efforts to this end. The second cause of unfair elections in our county, if we may judge by the records, lies with the executive committee, which machinery has exercised the power of placing managers in charge of holding elections who have not been properly instructed as to their duties, or they have, in some cases, been men who have not exercised good judgment in the discharge of their duties.

From the reports of many citizens whose integrity can not be doubted sharp practices took place in the last Democratic primary. Having such reports in mind it is my opinion that if such corruption had to exist in order to have a Democratic party in this county, then there should be no room in the borders of Macon for the Democratic party. But such is not necessary. Macon county yet has hundreds of fine citizens who do not approve of political crookedness and who are unwilling for such tactics to stand as a record for this county.

In my opinion there will be found in each county two elements in each party—one good and one bad. One of these elements will rule the county and in the absence of interest by the good element the bad always stands ready to grab the power. Just why have corrupt practices been permitted to prevail in Macon county? The answer appears to be easy. The good citizens of the county have failed to exercise the rights and privileges of good citizenship by not making an honest effort to eradicate political crookedness. Nearly 100 per cent of the citizenship of this county is sound at heart and believes in fair dealing, not only from the political standpoint, but in the every day walks of life. But most of us have been asleep at the switch. Therefore it is high time that the good citizens of the county who have its welfare at heart come solidly together for the purpose of organizing the political power in such a way as to prevent the possibility of corruption at the polls.

This letter is merely by way of appeal to other citizens of the county who believe in fair dealing to come forward with suggestions as to the best way to assure a majority rule in the county and to create an atmosphere of clean politics in the best county of the best state in the Union.

Very sincerely yours,

JACK STRIBLING.

September 28, 1928.

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

Dear Sir:

You have no idea how we look forward to and enjoy your paper. It gets better and better.

We are especially interested in your stand for clean politics. It seems time that someone took that interest.

Very truly yours,

E. S. B., N. Y.