

ESTABLISHED  
1885  
OLDEST PAPER  
WEST OF  
ASHEVILLE

# The Franklin Press

COUNTY-WIDE  
NEWS  
BRIEFLY BUT  
THOROUGHLY  
TOLD

INVESTIGATE MACON COUNTY

HEART OF A MOUNTAIN EMPIRE RIPE FOR DEVELOPMENT

VOLUME XLV

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 1930

NUMBER THREE

## TOWN DINNER PLANNED FOR FRANKLIN, JAN. 24TH

### PULL-TOGETHER SPIRIT DESIRED

Question of Practical Chamber of Commerce Needs Discussing

### TO ADVERTISE TOWN

### Strip of Unpaved Atlanta Road Should Be Completed

On Friday evening, January 24, at 7:30 o'clock, the people of Franklin are planning a dinner together. Already over fifty have accepted the invitation. The idea is from T. W. Angel, Sr. Several weeks ago he brought the idea to The Press and asked that the matter be given publicity. The Press was only too glad to do all it could in so worthy an effort.

The need of, and the benefits to be derived from such a meeting need no eulogizing from any one. If there were no other result than the good that would come from a rousing, cheerful evening together, when each and every one packed his daily worries and troubles outside and came in for a feed and a talk with his fellow townsmen, the effort would be well worth all its costs.

But there is more in the offing. It is hoped that this will be the beginning of a "pull-together" spirit being developed amongst us all. There are numerous things of community interest and community and individual progress that can be accomplished in no other way than all together. One of these is the dispelling of the bogey of hard times. Another is the question of a chamber of commerce of some practical kind. Another is some sort of town advertising to reach the outside world. Another is the need of a community hall of some kind. Another is to organize ourselves into a welcoming committee for our summer visitors. Another is the getting in touch with enterprises that are looking for locations in North Caro-

(Continued on page five)

## INVITATIONS TO 10 REPUBLICANS

### Hoover Invited To Speak At Greensboro Lincoln Day Dinner

Hendersonville, N. C.—President Herbert Hoover and Hon. Claudius H. Huston, chairman Republican National Executive Committee, will be invited to speak at the Lincoln Day dinner to be held February 12, 7:30 p. m. at the King Cotton Hotel, Greensboro, under the auspices of the Young Peoples Republican Organization of North Carolina, the representative for the Committee on Arrangements, Mr. A. M. McWhirter, secretary of the Republican State Executive Committee, announced.

The committee stated that invitations would be extended to Hon. Brownlow Jackson, State Chairman, Hon. Charles A. Jones, Republican National Committeeman and Congressman from the Ninth District of North Carolina, Mrs. Lilian M. B. Rodgers, State Vice-Chairman, Mrs. W. E. Kennen, Republican National committeewoman, Hon. Geo. E. Pritchard, congressman from the Tenth District of North Carolina and other prominent Republican leaders throughout the state. Party leaders from other states will be invited.

The committee hopes that at least

(Continued on page five)

### GAME REFUGE ON WAYAH CREEK IS FENCED BY WIRE

County Warden Fred Slagle, Warden Jess Slagle, and Zeb Shope are stringing one strand of No. 9 telephone wire around the borders of the Wayah game refuge, according to information reaching Franklin. This strand of wire and the strip of clearing through which it will run, will be a guide to hunters who come to the vicinity of the refuge.

The wire will also serve as a "drift fence," assisting to some extent in keeping deer within the borders of the refuge.

An additional deer has just been brought from Black Mountain to the Wayah preserve by District Warden E. Messe. The deer and other wild stock on Wayah creek are reported to be doing well. No epidemic or disease has troubled them, nor have the wardens been troubled by trespassers.

## LADIES' NIGHT IS HELD BY ROTARY

### Thirteen Maiden Ladies And Lone Bachelor Attend Fete

The Franklin Rotary club held its annual Ladies' Night on the evening of Friday, 10, at the Scott Griffin hotel. Besides the Rotary Anns, the teachers of the Franklin Grammar school and the Franklin High school were present. In the unavoidable absence of Gilmer Jones, Rotary president, Prof. G. L. Houk acted as toast master.

A unique program was greatly enjoyed by the guests. After doing full justice to the very large and palatable dinner served by the highly efficient Mr. Brown, manager of the Scott Griffin, the guests were put thru an intelligence test. The test, when completed, carried a message to each guest welcoming him to the feast. Prof. Houk got some of his own back in giving a sample questionnaire, orally to each guest. Having the guest to rise, he then asked him ridiculous questions. To the questions, "Are you married and why?" some of the newly weds were at sea as to the answer. One lady, a newly wed, when asked her name, had forgotten it. She also failed on the question as to what reason she had for marrying.

Among the forty odd guests there were thirteen maiden ladies—pardon, young unmarried ladies—and only one bachelor. Sam Franks, who in private life is Franklin's very popular post master, was given the task of auctioning off the one and only bachelor present. There was a veritable stampede in the bidding. Finally, Miss Helen Burch was the successful bidder. Just whether or not Miss Burch feels that she paid too dear for the whistle (r) could not be ascertained.

Mrs. R. S. Jones, one of Franklin's recent brides, and an accomplished entertainer, pleased the diners greatly in "Mud Pies" and several encores.

(Continued on page five)

### Bishop Horner To Hold Services Here Sunday

Bishop Horner, of Asheville, will hold services at the Franklin Episcopal church Sunday morning, January 19, at 11 a. m., according to word received from Rev. Albert New, pastor of the Grace Episcopal church of Waynesville. The public is invited, and it is hoped that all members of the Episcopal church will be present in order to give Bishop Horner a large congregation.

## POISON IS FOUND BY EXAMINATION

### Strychnine In Stomachs of Bill Scruggs and Of His Dog

### REPORT INCOMPLETE

### Sufficient Quantity Found To Have Caused Death Of Either

A letter received by Dr. W. A. Rogers, county physician, from the state chemist at Raleigh discloses the fact that strychnine was found in the stomachs of Bill Scruggs, aged Negro, and of his dog, both of whom died December 5, in sufficient quantities to have caused the death of either of them.

The death of Scruggs was believed to have been caused by strychnine put in salmon croquets which he ate for supper on the day of his death. The remains of the croquets were fed to Scruggs' dog which also died soon afterward.

Minnie Scruggs, daughter of the deceased, and J. E. Parrish, said to be her sweetheart, were brought to the county jail the day following the death of Bill Scruggs, where they are awaiting the February term of superior court. Minnie is alleged to have confessed to the county jailer, William Edwards, that she and Parrish administered the poison, but she afterward denied making the confession.

Some delay in making the examination of the two stomachs was reported in the letter from the state chemist, due to an infection on the hand of the man to whom the examination was delegated. A more complete analysis of the contents of the two stomachs is yet to be made, it is understood.

## CHURCH WOMEN PUT ON BANQUET

### Methodist Ladies Hold Enjoyable Affair At Hotel Franklin

On January 9 at 7:00 o'clock the Reds and Blues of the Methodist Women's Bible class met at the Franklin Hotel and enjoyed a bounteous feed. The class had a very enjoyable evening together. Even though the Blues were quite blue over their defeat, they forgot it all that night and every one had a grand time together.

After diner our beloved teacher, Mrs. Callahan, gave a most interesting talk and read a lovely poem, "He Who Hath A Dream Possessed," which inspired all of us to do bigger things.

Last October a meeting of the Methodist Women's Bible class was held at the home of Mrs. Jim Perry. At this meeting one of the members of the class suggested that it put on a contest to arouse greater enthusiasm among the members and to get more members into the class.

It was decided to divide the class into two groups which were to be the Reds and Blues. The contest was to last two months and at the end of that time the group which won was to be entertained by the losing group. Mrs. Bill Moore was appointed captain of the Reds and Mrs. W. A. Rogers captain of the Blues. These two proved to be very efficient and enthusiastic leaders.

There was much friendly rivalry and enthusiasm displayed during the contest. Every Sunday each side was anxious to know which was in the lead but the class was not told until the contest was over.

On December 16 the poor Blues

(Continued on page five)

## BRANCH LINE RAILWAY BEGUN AT NANTAHALA

### WORK RESUMED ON SURFACING OF WAYAH CRK. ROAD

Work has been resumed on graveling the Wayah Creek road by the Nantahala National forest. Surfacing of the road had stopped temporarily in order to repair a broken part of the rock crusher. Within two weeks, the forestry officials expect to have an all-weather road to the foot of the Nantahala mountains, from which point the road is passable in spite of rain.

An addition to the forestry service garage on Wayah creek has been authorized by the district engineer, it is reported from the office of Supervisor A. A. Wood. Work will start this spring on the addition. It will allow for additional working and storing space twice the size of that now in use. Part of the space will be used by the district ranger for storing fire equipment.

## STATE SCHOOLS ARE INCREASING

### Cities Provided With 708 High Schools; Country Has 153

Raleigh, Jan. 15.—There are now 861 public high schools in the state, at least one in every county, offering courses of instruction to all boys and girls who show themselves able to profit by them. Of this number 708 are provided for rural and 153 for city boys and girls. More than 110,000 boys and girls are availing themselves of the opportunities offered in these schools, and over 13,000 are graduating annually from them. These facts are disclosed in the current issue of State School Facts, official publication of the state superintendent of Public instruction, which is devoted to the high school phase of the state's public school system.

Over a period of five years, this paper shows that there has been a great increase in the several high school grades, especially in the rural schools.

In 1928-29 there were 12,762 more white boys and girls in the eighth grade, or first year high school, than there were in 1923-24. In the ninth grade there were 10,737 more than in 1923-24, an increase of 68.8 per cent. In the tenth grade there was an increase of 7,969 over 1923-24, or 67 per cent; and in the eleventh grade 6,487 more, or a 75-per cent increase. A total of 37,955 more pupils were in attendance at the public high schools in 1928-29 than in 1923-24.

Within the same period, the publication further shows, the number of graduates from public high school has increased 74.3 per cent. In 1923-24 there were approximately 7,000 high school graduates, whereas in 1928-29 a total of 12,145 white and 1,262 colored boys and girls finished these public institutions, a grand total of 13,407. The greatest increase in number of graduates has been in the rural schools, more than 4,000 against only 1,000 in city schools.

### Spanish American War Veterans to Meet Jan. 16

Wade Hayes Camp Spanish American War Veterans from Jackson, Macon, Clay, Cherokee, Graham and Swain counties will meet at the court house in Bryson City, January 16 at 7:30 p. m. Captain Henry W. Edmonds, state commander, will be present at this meeting. All veterans living in these counties are urged to attend this meeting.

## SUBSIDIARY LINE RAPIDLY PUSHED

### Train Will Soon Deliver Construction Supplies At Beechers

### STREET IS SURFACED

### New Houses Being Built In Macon's Youngest Village

Tracklaying from Nantahala station, on the Murphy branch of the Southern railroad, to the grounds of the Nantahala Light and Power company at Beechers in Macon county has begun. A train will soon be delivering construction supplies for the power house and equipment for tunneling the eight-mile passageway which is to connect the dam with the power house.

Two steam shovels and several air drills are to be put in operation on the Aquone end of the railroad within a few days in order to shorten the time needed for completing the entire new railway line. In addition to this work a switch line is being graded from the main route to the power house site. The switch runs on the east side of the new village at Beechers and terminates near the incline to the mouth of the proposed eight-mile tunnel.

This incline is to be completed within a few days, it is understood. Nearby, work on the foundation for the power house is in rapid progress.

A survey for a new transmission line to Robbinsville is under way, and the right of way for the line is being trimmed. This is in addition to the transmission line to Andrews which has been under construction for several weeks.

Main street through the new village at Beechers is being graveled, and is to be concreted later, it is reported. Building of houses in the village continues. These new houses include a spacious store building for the power company.

## BAPTISTS NAME 6 NEW DEACONS

### Many Church Officers Renamed In Election Last Sunday

Six new deacons were elected by the Franklin Baptist church last Sunday, and they as well as others not yet ordained will be ordained by the church and presbytery on the second Sunday of February at 11:00 a. m.

The newly elected deacons are as follows: Richard Hudson, W. L. Higdon, Silas Womack, Jack Wyman, George Dean, and Dr. H. T. Horsley.

Mrs. Oscar Bryant has been elected church pianist. Mrs. I. T. Peck has been elected leader of the choir. Alex Moore was re-elected superintendent of the Sunday school. Herman Childers was re-elected clerk of the church. Chas. Blaine was re-elected secretary of the Sunday school. Johnny Rogers was re-elected director of the B. Y. P. U.

The church voted to have all financial deficits wiped out during January. The every member canvass has been begun. The finance committee has charge. They will be assisted by W. G. Stewart, Rev. J. B. Stallcup, Mrs. W. L. Higdon, Mrs. I. T. Peck, Mrs. W. G. Wilkie, Wade Cunningham, A. J. West, and others.

All members are asked by the finance committee to secure a card

(Continued on page five)