

COUNTY-WIDE
NEWS
BRIEFLY BUT
THOROUGHLY
TOLD

The Franklin Press

ESTABLISHED
1885
OLDEST PAPER
WEST OF
ASHEVILLE

INVESTIGATE MACON COUNTY
HEART OF A MOUNTAIN EMPIRE RIPE FOR DEVELOPMENT

VOLUME XLV

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1930

NUMBER SIX

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO BE LAUNCHED

MEETING IS SET TO COME FRIDAY

Supper And Organization
Gathering Will Be Held
At 7:30

TO SOLVE PROBLEMS

Franklin Hotel And Res-
taurant Is Place of
Meeting

For the purpose of formulating definite plans which it is expected will lead to the organization of a chamber of commerce in Franklin, a supper will be held at 7:30 Friday night at the Franklin Hotel and Restaurant, followed by a meeting at which steps will be taken to launch the trade organization.

So many people have asked the question, "Why was a chamber of commerce not organized when such a large crowd was together at the town banquet in the Scott Griffin hotel?" that it is now believed advisable to hold another meeting for the express purpose of perfecting such an organization. It was obviously impracticable to take steps toward organizing at the Scott Griffin because of the full program and the nature of the gathering.

Many Problems

Many problems confront the people of Franklin that are said to need the attention of the whole community. Town leaders say that it is inadvisable to remain longer inactive. Among the needs that have been named are advertising the town, better street lighting, road signs, stricter tax collection, the setting up of an information bureau, road building on through roads in adjoining states that lead through Franklin.

All who will attend the meeting Friday night are asked to give their names to Jack Strubling at the Joiner Motor company. His phone number is 54. The management of the Franklin Hotel and Restaurant must know by Friday morning how many to provide for. Already, a fairly large number have signified their intention of attending the gathering.

Plans have already been suggested that will be stated in full on Friday night. These plans are reported to be practical, but opportunity will be given to amend them and to suggest other views when the meeting is held.

It is especially urged that the Rotary club, Boy Scouts, the American Legion, and the Parent-Teachers be represented.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS TO BE SPENT ON W. N. C. HIGHWAYS

Mountain Counties Will Feel Stimulus of District's Work

One million dollars will be spent for highway construction in the mountain counties that comprise the Ninth District during the coming year, it has been revealed by James G. Stikeleather, commissioner.

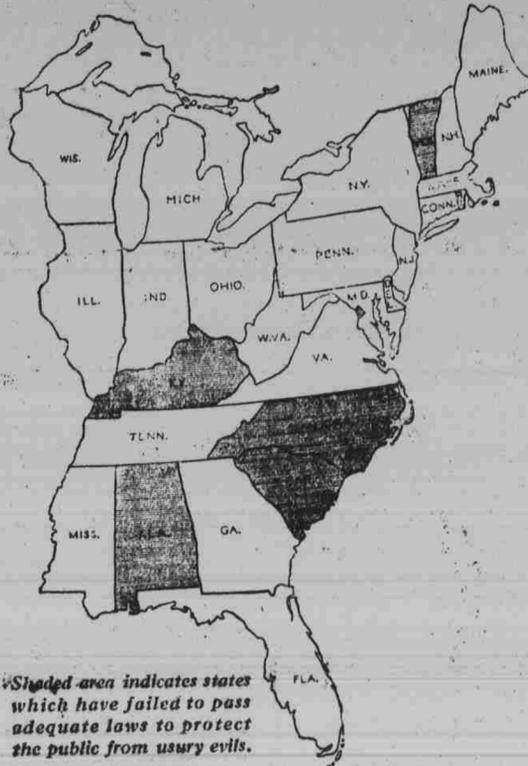
This figure includes the allotment from the state highway fund for the year and the Federal aid fund for the district which is expected to amount to approximately \$275,000.

Discussing the program for the district, Mr. Stikeleather declared that the fund will be divided so that the development of the highway system in the mountains can be advanced as rapidly as possible.

Hoover To Sign

President Hoover is expected to sign the bill which carries increases in the Federal Government's contribution to highway construction within the

PUSHING BACK THE LOAN SHARK'S LAST FRONTIER



Shaded area indicates states which have failed to pass adequate laws to protect the public from usury evils.

LOAN SHARK' IS LOSING GROUND

Legislation Still Needed In 5 Eastern States, Including N. C.

In all that territory east of the Mississippi river only five states have failed, so far, to pass legislation based on the Uniform Small Loan act worked out by the Russell Sage Foundation after long study of the "loan shark" situation. These states are Vermont, Kentucky, Alabama, and North and South Carolina.

In these states the loan shark, elsewhere generally outlawed and beaten by remedial loan legislation, continues to ply his traffic charging often 20 per cent or more a month. The Uniform Small Loan act requires close regulation of the small loan business and in most states puts a maximum interest charge for loans of \$300 or less at 3 1-2 per cent a month. No

(Continued on page eight)

THIRTY FARMERS ATTEND TOBACCO MEETING MONDAY

About 30 Macon county farmers met in the office of County Agent Fred Sloan last Monday afternoon to plan for planting tobacco crops this year. Most of the farmers will begin the experiment on a small scale, stating that their plans are to raise but from one-half to one acre each. The total acreage will amount to approximately 20 acres.

CITIZENS CENSOR TOWN ALDERMEN

Demand That Board Collect Tax Arrears For Last 4 Years

A delegation of Franklin citizens, headed by Miss Elizabeth Kelly, appeared before the board of Aldermen last Monday night and demanded to know the reason why the board had failed to collect nearly \$10,000 in back taxes over the years 1925, 1926, 1927 and 1928.

"Conditions in this town might be remedied by the influence of the board," Miss Kelly asserted. "More shoulders under the load will lighten the burden for all. It has been brought to my attention within the last three days that town taxes are in arrears to the amount of nearly \$10,000. If this sum should be paid in, it would relieve pressure on those who are trying to carry the financial load of the town."

"I have figured that taxes would be reduced seven cents on the hundred if these back taxes were paid in. If you have any recourse, you can put pressure to bear to collect these arrears, or else you cannot put pressure on me for last year's taxes."

Aldermen Explain

Members of the board of aldermen explained that delay had been made in putting the property of delinquent tax payers on sale, because the county had been considering such steps

(Continued on page eight)

WALTER LEE SUFFERS FATAL HEART ATTACK

S. C. I. DEFEATS FRANKLIN TEAM IN BASKET BALL

Sylvia Collegiate institute defeated Franklin's cagers here last Friday night by the score of 23-17. The game was fast and the playing was clean, although a bit tough near the end of the game. Douglas, S. C. I. forward, was the outstanding player for his team. Dalrymple led the scoring for Franklin, with Sutton taking second place. Franklin was leading at the end of the first half by 14-11.

A preliminary game by two teams of town boys was played.

The line for the main game:

Franklin	S. C. I.
Dalrymple	F..... Douglas
Teague	F..... Sutton
Wilkes	C..... Wilson
Sutton	G..... Dillard
Hauser	G.....
McCullum, Snyder, and Henry	were substituted for Franklin.
Referee: Houk.	

BAPTIST PASTOR DIES IN HIS AUTO

Death Comes As Minister Returns From School Building Thursday

FUNERAL IN FRANKLIN

Interment Held In Family Cemetery Near Gordon, Georgia

Dr. Walter M. Lee, 50, pastor of the Franklin Baptist church, died of heart disease early Thursday morning in his automobile as he was returning home after taking his children to school. He stopped the car before the residence of Harold Sloan near the top of the hill on West Main street. Mrs. Sloan was attracted by the cries of a little girl, and found the Baptist pastor slumped in his seat with feebly beating pulse. Dr. Furman Angel was summoned, but an examination showed that Dr. Lee was dead.

The deceased came to Franklin in May, 1928, from Westminster, S. C., where he was pastor of the Emmanuel Baptist church. Since he took the pastorate here 198 additions have been received by the Baptist church, and the debt has been paid off the church building which was erected in 1919.

Held Prayer Meeting

The death of Dr. Lee came as a shock to the town. He had been ill for several days early in January, but was believed to have fully recovered. He carried on his work as pastor up until the day before his death, having conducted the usual prayer meeting service on Wednesday night.

Dr. Lee was born near Gordon, Ga., Jan. 5, 1880. He took work at Mercer university in Macon, Ga., leading to the A. B. and M. A. degrees. Afterward he attended the Southern Baptist Theological seminary at Louisville, Ky., where he received the degree of Doctor of Theology.

The deceased had experience in editorial work during his student days and afterward. His efforts led to the establishment of the Review and Expositor at the Louisville seminary.

(Continued on page eight)

COMMISSIONERS TO REPAIR JAIL

Will Reinforce Walls With Six Inches of Steel And Concrete

Macon county's board of commissioners in session here Monday passed an order to repair the county jail by constructing a six-inch concrete wall, reinforced by metal rods, around the present walls of the jail. In addition, the commissioners will make such repairs on the inside of the jail as are believed to be needed.

The county jail is under condemnation. It has been pronounced by an investigating grand jury as inadequate, insanitary and unsafe. The county commissioners have been threatened by grand jury prosecution unless steps are taken to erect a new jail before the next term of su-

(Continued on page eight)

COUNTY AND TOWN OFFICERS VIOLATE PUBLICATION LAWS

Commissioners And Aldermen Fail to Publish Disbursements Lists

The Press is endeavoring to, from time to time, give out information that will be of real value to its readers in learning more about the affairs of county and municipal government. With that in mind we print below the law in regard to the publishing of annual statements for the benefit of the public in keeping up with the affairs of the town and county. The law below has to do mainly with the giving out of information in regard to receipts and expenditures.

In this connection, readers will please note that the financial statements referred to in the law quoted below, were not published either for 1927 or 1928 for the town or county. Numerous tax payers are asking The Press why these statements have not been published. The Press can only reply that the statements have not

been ordered published by the town or the county board.

Requirements of County Commissioners

Section 1334. Annual statement of claims and revenues to be published. —The board shall be caused to be posted, at the court house within five days after each regular December meeting and for at least four successive weeks, or after each regular monthly meeting, if they deem it advisable, and for one week, the name of every individual whose accounts have been audited, the amount claimed and the amount allowed; and also at the same time and in the same manner post a full statement of county revenue and charges, showing by items the income from every source and the disbursements on every account for the past year, together with the permanent debt of the county, if any, and the interest paid or remaining unpaid thereon. The board shall also publish the said statement in some newspaper in the county.

(Continued on page eight)