

## GREAT SMOKIES HIGHWAY BEGUN

Tennessee Starts Construction of Road to Park Boundary

READY FOR VISITORS

Park Expected To Draw 50,000 Visitors Daily

(Knoxville News-Sentinel)

Governor Horton and State Highway Commissioner Baker gave positive assurance to A. B. Cammerer, associate National Parks Director, today that the state will build whatever roads to the park the government wants.

Both Horton and Baker asked Cammerer what roads the government wants and in what order they are wanted.

Cammerer said the most pressing need was for a first-class road to Cade's Cove, where the Smoky Mountain park concentration camp will be situated.

So Horton and Baker agreed that work on that road will start at once. In fact, it has already begun. Division Highway Engineer Love said that the survey of the new road from Knoxville to Maryville, connecting at Knoxville with the new state highway bridge at the U-T farm would be completed in two weeks and that grading will be started at once.

The bridge will be completed by the middle of this summer, and by that time the grading of the new Knoxville to Maryville road will be well under way.

30 Feet Wide

The new highway to Maryville probably will be 30 feet wide as compared to the 181-foot highway connecting the two cities.

The 30-foot paved road will then be continued from Maryville to the western boundary of the park, probably following the present Deal's Gap road part of the way.

A part of the Deal's Gap road probably will have to be re-located because dams contemplated by the Aluminum Company of America would flood the road.

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## MAN IS ARRESTED ON LIQUOR CHARGE AFTER CAR WRECK

R. F. Pinson, of Atlanta, riding toward Franklin last Sunday afternoon with his wife and two children, wrecked his automobile about 10 miles from town, near the home of Frank Norton, deputy sheriff. Norton, who went to the aid of the man, reports finding nearly a quart of liquor in Pinson's possession, and attributes the wreck to intoxication on the part of Pinson, who was arrested and brought to the county jail.

Pinson's arm and shoulder were injured in the wreck, it is stated, but his wife and children were unharmed. His car was badly damaged. Bond had not been made by Pinson on Monday morning.

## STATE MEETING FOR TAX RELIEF COMES MONDAY

March 31 has been set as the date for the state-wide conference on property tax relief to be held at Raleigh, according to information received last week by J. O. Harrison, chairman of the board of county commissioners. The conference will convene at 11 a. m. in the ballroom of the Sir Walter Hotel.

Mr. Harrison is notifying all members of the delegation from Macon county who are to attend the conference. Each delegation will be asked to present suggestions, discussions and proposals based on the results of its experience and research into the question of tax relief. It is hoped that a program of procedure may be worked out at the conference that will be acceptable to all North Carolina counties. This program will then be used as a basis of a state-wide objective in obtaining property tax relief.

The delegation named to represent Macon county is composed of J. A. Porter, T. W. Kiser, W. L. Higdon, W. D. Barnard, T. J. Johnston, Frank Moody, T. G. Harbison, M. D. Billings, S. A. Munday, and A. S. Solesbee.

## JOHN B. BYRNE TRANSFERRED

Junior Forester Promoted To Assistant Supervisor Of Pisgah

John Byrne, of the local U. S. forest headquarters, is to be promoted from the grade of Junior Forester to that of Assistant Forest Supervisor, on or about May 1 when he will be transferred to the Pisgah National forest with headquarters at Asheville.

Mr. Byrne came to the Nantahala National forest in February, 1927, from Columbus, Ga., having worked there as a forest ranger on the Alabama-Benning forest, since abandoned as a National forest. Prior to that time he had been working with the United States Forest service in Louisiana and Florida, but his original work and training in the Forest service was in California where he was reared and educated, and where he graduated from the University of California with the degree of bachelor of science.

Arthur A. Wood, supervisor of the Nantahala forest, states that occasion for the promotion is due to a general shake up in the southern part of the Eastern District of the U. S. Forest service, because of the death during the latter part of the winter of R. H. Charlton, of the Ouachita National forest, with headquarters at Hot Springs National Park, Arkansas. Mr. Byrne goes to the Pisgah National forest, Asheville, to take the place of the present assistant supervisor, C. L. Graham, who in turn has been promoted to the position of Forest Supervisor of the Unaka National forest at Bristol, Tenn. S. R. Broadbent, present forest supervisor of the Unaka forest goes to the Choctaw (Continued on page six)

## MACON DEVELOPMENTS TO TOTAL OVER 10 MILLION DOLLARS AFTER ALL CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETED

### Town and County Briefs

In session at a call meeting on Tuesday night, the board of aldermen voted to rescind the order that all filling tanks on town property be moved within 30 days. This move was made in order to save garage and filling station owners unnecessary expense until Main street is widened or until some other move should make the reinforcement of the order necessary.

The aldermen also discussed the feasibility of a sewer line to run from Harrison avenue by way of the Nantahala Creamery to the end of the town sewer line at Porter street. Gordon Moore was appointed to find how much aid could be secured from home or property owners in this part of town on the proposed extension.

Deputy fire wardens from the various districts of Macon met at Franklin last Saturday to receive instructions from District Forester W. K. Beichler, of Asheville, who came to Franklin to attend the meeting. Tools for fire fighting were also distributed to the wardens whose equipment was incomplete.

While the meeting was in progress County Warden Fred Slagle was summoned to fight a fire that had started burning timberland on a nearby mountain.

### Two Are Charged With Possession

Safety demands that one should not walk along the public road carrying whiskey if the sheriff is coming that way. John Henry and Fred Stiwinter, of Walnut Creek, had two and a half gallons of whiskey when they met Sheriff C. L. Ingram and three deputies near Walnut Creek last Saturday, reports Sheriff Ingram.

With Deputies Frank Norton, Arthur Ray and Mack McCall, the sheriff was hunting stills when Henry and Stiwinter were encountered. The two were brought to the Macon county jail, but were soon released under bond.

### Bryson City Men Arrested Thurs.

Some men go to Georgia to get married, and some go for other reasons. Earnest Welch, Hall Hyde and Carl Reed, of Bryson City, returned from Georgia last Thursday with evidence of having gone for other reasons, according to Sheriff C. L. Ingram, who reports that Deputies Frank Norton and Frank Norris arrested Welch, Hyde and Reed near Cartoogechaye creek with six gallons of liquor.

The three Bryson City men made bond and will answer the charges against them at the April term of superior court.

### TAX LISTING TO BEGIN ON APRIL 7 IN MACON CO.

Tax listing begins in Macon county this year on the first Monday in April instead of on the first Monday in May as has been the case in previous years, states Horner Stockton, register of deeds, who desires that the change be stressed. As many days as the tax lister judges necessary will be given to making the lists. Points at which tax payers will be met will be announced by the lister of each township.

Each tax payer must make affidavit to the correctness of the valuation of his property as listed, states Mr. Stockton.

Dates and places for listing in Franklin township follow: Clark's Chapel, April 7; Stockton's store at Prentiss, April 8; Roane's store, April 9; Mallonee's mill, April 10; court house, April 11, 12, 13, 14, 15.

### FRANK SILER'S WORK UNIQUE

Pioneer Minister Served 40 Years In Methodist Church

Rev. Frank Siler, whose funeral was held Feb. 24, belonged to a contemporary group of men of mark (five of them kinsmen) who helped to maintain the high standards of life and thought for which Macon county has been known in the State of North Carolina: Frederick Swain Johnston, lawyer; Samuel L. Rogers, director of the U. S. Census Bureau; Fred L. Siler, physician; Jesse and Will Sloan, merchants.

Mr. Siler's father, Jacob Siler, with a Mr. Brittain as companion, was the first white settler in what is now Macon county, then occupied by the Cherokee Indians. He helped in the purchase of the land from the Indians by the Government, helped to form Macon county and for years represented the County in the Legislature. Frank Siler, his son by his second marriage, was born when his father was seventy years old, in the old Jacob Siler home, the site of the present Maxwell school. True to his blood and its traditions, Frank Siler was a pioneer in every field of thought and endeavor which he entered.

For 40 years he wrought ardently and valiantly for the Methodist church. He worked for the emancipation of woman, for the cause of prohibition, and for the union of American Methodism. He is said to have desired the union of all the churches into one force for peace and righteousness.

## HIGHLANDS GOLF COURSE TO OPEN

New Links To Be Used For First Time This Summer

CLUB HOUSE IS READY

Power Projects And Building Program Will Aid County

Approximately \$10,750,000 is the total of the sum that will be, or recently has been spent on construction work in Macon county. Ten million of this sum will represent the cost of the dam and power development now under construction at Beechers by the Nantahala Power and Light company, subsidiary of the Aluminum Company of America. According to estimates, the valuation of this single undertaking will probably lower the tax rate in Macon by 40 per cent.

Of the remaining \$750,000, the sum of \$300,000 represents the valuation of the 18-hole golf course and of the club house of Highlands Estates, Inc., at Highlands. The last nine links of this course will be opened this summer to golfers. The recently completed club house will also be opened this summer.

On the pavement of eight miles of Highway 28 between Franklin and Highlands, \$170,000 is to be spent this spring and summer. Building construction now under way or contemplated in Franklin will total approximately \$45,000. Power lines planned for the rural districts of the County by the Blowing Rock Light and Power company will cost about \$10,000. A power development on property recently purchased on Middle Creek by J. B. and J. A. McCrary, of Atlanta, will be started within a few months, it is believed by residents of the Middle Creek section. No estimate of the cost of this development has been made public, but it is probable that the undertaking will represent at least \$125,000.

The branch line railway from Nantahala station to Beechers, the site of the proposed power house of the Nantahala Power and Light company is nearing completion. Construction of an eight-mile tunnel from this point to the site of the dam is underway.

The development of this power source bids fair to continue for several years. By the fall of 1930 it is expected that 2000 men will be employed on the various points of construction included in the undertaking. Native labor is being used in so far as is practical.

This is one of several dams in Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee being constructed by subsidiaries of the Aluminum Company of America. The power sources will be connected by transmission lines so that the combined horse power generated at all points of development

The golf course and club house of the Highlands Estates, Inc., constitute one of the leading pleasure resorts of its kind in the East. Few golf courses in the mountains have advantages equal to it. Riding up the mountain road from Dillard, Ga., to Highlands, one unexpectedly rounds the last curve that stands between him and the site of a lake which divides nine of the 18 greens from the other nine. The cliffs of Satulah mountain overlook the lake. To the right and left the hills are thickly wooded, rising to sharp points in the distance. The greens and fairways have been converted into sodded earth from what will be available.

Power from the McCrary development on Middle Creek will be available to the inhabitants of the southern part of the county, and also to people in parts of North Georgia. The McCrary interests have not yet divulged what other purposes power from this source will be used for.

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## Eyes Of Forestry Service Vigilant During Dry Weather; Location Of Fires Is Simplified By Triangulation System

On last Monday someone set a fire in the vicinity of Grassy Ridge creek some eight or 10 miles southeast of Franklin. In this vicinity the U. S. Forest service owns part of the land and part of it is owned by private citizens. In such a case it is impossible to tell immediately whether the fire is on or off of government land. Three U. S. forest guards reported the smoke to headquarters office in Franklin, and in 15 minutes two men were ready to leave for the fire and put it out. By that time the smoke had subsided, and it was concluded that it was a brush fire some one had set, and was well under control, so the firefighters did not go to the fire. How the reports and dispatches of the U. S. Forest service operate is told in the following paragraph by a forestry official:

The Nantahala National forest now has a system called the triangulation system used for determining the location of any fires that are started over an area of thousands of acres of land in Macon and surrounding counties, extending into Georgia and South Carolina, wherever there is Forest Service land. Every day when the woods are sufficiently dry to burn, lookouts are stationed on the high points in the territory. These include Rabun Bald, Standing Indian, Wayah Bald, Wesser Bald, Glassy Mountain, Round Mountain, and Satulah Mountain.

At each of these lookout stations an instrument called an alidade is installed over a circle, marked off by 360 degrees. When smoke arises anywhere, all eyes of the lookouts within seeing distance are turned to

it. The lookout man points one arm of the instrument, working on an axis right in the center of the circle, at the smoke, similarly to the manner of sighting a gun. Then he notices at what degree of the circle the instrument covers and telephones the information to Franklin headquarters office.

If two lookouts give the information, headquarters is able to tell within a few hundred yards as to the location of the fire, and men are quickly dispatched with necessary tools to extinguish it. In the office at headquarters is a map of the entire forest, with circles, marked off in 360 degrees covering each lookout point, with the circle so placed over the map that its center is one of the lookout points. After getting the bearings of two or more of the lookouts as determined by their

sightings, the man at headquarters simply draws a line or a cord from the different stations on the map out from the center of the circle using the degree telephoned in by the lookout. Since the lookouts are sighting from different sides of the fire the lines made at headquarters converge and at this point is where the fire is burning.

The forest supervisor at Franklin appreciates the co-operation of the farmers in telephoning to the lookouts at any time they are burning or anticipate burning brush piles so that the Service will not have to go to the expense of dispatching a fire-fighting crew to the location. If it is not convenient to advise the lookout men direct, the information may be left at headquarters office in Franklin and the information will be transmitted to them.