

COUNTY-WIDE NEWS BRIEFLY BUT THOROUGHLY TOLD

# The Franklin Press

ESTABLISHED 1885 OLDEST PAPER WEST OF ASHEVILLE

VOLUME XLV

FRANKLIN, N. C., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1930

NUMBER THIRTY-NINE

## RIDLEY WRITES SECOND SERIES ON EDUCATION

### American Civilization Is Dependent On Schools

(By Dr. Caleb A. Ridley)  
SERIES II

America and American civilization, and Constitutional human liberty, will live and flourish only so long as our public school system lives and flourishes. The Fathers were far-sighted, almost prophetic, in laying the educational cornerstones for our Republic, and while the schools which they established taught only the primary elements of learning, they included two things which modern education is in danger of losing, to the hurt of every citizen: Reverence for God and Loyalty to the Constitution.

These men were lacking in facilities but long on faith. They had but few books but they mastered them. Log houses became to them veritable vestibules to Learning's Imperial Temple. They cultivated flowers and became botanists. They studied the heavens and became astronomers, often seeing beyond the stars. If our modern school system produced comparative results according to its increased facilities, it would be the educational wonder of the world; but it does not. Even our public schools impress one as being mercenary—out after the dollar of the banker and the dime of the orphan-ages, charges,

"Illiteracy and near-illiteracy are extremely expensive. We are losing a billion dollars each year through lessened production, sickness and crime because of a lack of elementary education.

"I saw, in France, whole camps of our young men who had been sent from this Republic to 'make the world safe for democracy' and who could not read. Many of these men did not know the meaning of the word 'democracy.' They could not read the Preamble to the Constitution.

"Our military authorities in many cases, before they could use these men effectively, had to turn schoolmasters and teach them how to read simple orders and how to follow directions. Illiteracy is not only a cause of accidents, disease and crime in times of peace, but it is a dangerous handicap in times of war."

There are 15,000,000 voters in America who cannot read the English language.

Foreigners who have come here to live should be made to learn the English language, and the United States Government should provide the facilities.

thousands of poor children cannot go. The eyes of the whole world are today on America, watching, waiting to see if she will yet commercialize her public schools as she has commercialized most everything else.

Learning must be acquired at considerable expense of both time and money, and promises no immediate returns; and Americans expect pay every Saturday night. Because Rome could not see wherein she would be benefitted, either in politics or material prosperity by education, she allowed her schools to die, and with this death-struggle came the damnation of Rome. Had the Roman Empire known that real schools are the greatest producers of wealth on earth, she would have maintained them at any cost; but lacking vision the people perish.

No government is, or can be safe and permanent without giving itself great concern over the matter of education. And this is peculiarly true of a Democracy, since the inherent power of a Republican form of government rests at last with the people themselves.

President Hoover, while Secretary of Commerce, gave out an interesting interview on education, giving it as his personal belief that our educational system was our greatest asset as a nation. In the interview he said we have 36,000,000 children in common schools; 5,000,000 in high schools, and 800,000 others in higher educational institutions.

These figures are large and sound good to the casual reader, but the picture has a dark side to it. We have more illiteracy than any civilized nation on earth—six out of every one hundred of our population can neither read nor write. As the old Japanese proverb said:

"At the foot of the Lighthouse is darkness."

We drop far below England, France, Wales, Scotland, Sweden, Norway, Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark and Germany. While we have six illiterates to every one hundred of our population, Germany has only two to every one thousand.

L. R. Alderman, a specialist of the Bureau of Education in Washington, declared recently:

illiterates.

Dr. Charles H. Judd, departmental head of education in Chicago University says:

"The United States has the best schools and the worst schools in the world."

### MEETINGS HELD BY DR. RIDLEY

#### West Asheville News To Publish Talks Delivered At Deaver View

In the absence of The Press editor, we take the liberty of publishing the following write-up taken from the West Asheville News where Dr. Ridley is preaching this week:

"Dr. Caleb A. Ridley, noted evangelist will speak this coming Sunday to the Deaver View Baptist church for a series of gospel services. Dr. Ridley is a native of Western North Carolina, having been born and reared in the mountains near Franklin. For 12 years he held the pastorate of the Central Baptist church, Atlanta, and for five summers supplied for Dr. Len G. Broughton at the great tabernacle of that city. Of this, Dr. Broughton says, 'Ridley is the only man on either side of the sea who ever filled it in my absence.'

Dr. Ridley has come back to his native heath after gaining national recognition for himself. He loves the mountains and the mountain folk and declares he will never leave them again. His abilities are sufficient to overflowing the auditoriums of Asheville's largest churches and the people of West Asheville and Deaver View section are fortunate indeed to secure him. The News will publish, if possible, a series of Dr. Ridley's talks which he will deliver at Deaver View Baptist church, beginning this coming Sunday.

Church officials extend a cordial invitation to the general public to attend these meetings.

### NEW SUBSCRIBERS

We are not chesky—just glad. For the past several days new subscriptions have been coming in daily and many are renewing. People are having The Press sent to friends away from here and scores who live outside Macon county are ordering it. Who next? It's your move. We are here to serve all the people all the time.

### HOLT AND GRAVES RAZZ EACH OTHER IN FRENCH LEGION

"Hell's Island," Coming To Macon Theatre, Is Their Latest Buddy Vehicle

Jack Holt and Ralph Graves, having "razzed," kidded and fought each other under the sea and in the air (Continued on page 8, col. 4)

### PRESBYTERIANS HOLD BIG RALLY

#### Franklin Sends Committee To Assist In Marking Official Launching

Presbyterian laymen and ministers from Franklin and vicinity are among the members of the General Committee of the King College Campaign of Completion, it was learned from the campaign headquarters in Bristol today.

Members of this General Committee will gather at Bristol next Thursday September 25, for a big educational rally to mark the official launching of the campaign to complete the college standardization fund.

Sam R. Sells, of Johnson City, general chairman of the campaign will preside at the session which will begin at 12 o'clock with the serving of dinner in the college dining room. A program of inspiration and education will follow.

This is expected to be one of the most important educational gatherings in the history of the Synod of Appalachia, and prominent lay and ministerial leaders will be among the speakers. Between 200 and 300 persons are expected to attend.

Members of the committee from the

### REV. C. F. FARRIS HOLDS SERVICE

#### Pastor's Subject Is "The Seven Churches In Revelation"

The second service of the month was held at Union Methodist church Sunday morning. Rev. C. F. Farris preached on "The Seven Churches in Revelation."

The pastor dwelt upon the characteristics of the churches in Asia at the time of St. John. He said, "The seven churches are the seven ages of Christ's church up to date. We are now living in the last age, the church of Laodicea." The pastor spoke of the church at Pergamus when Constantine lived, the start of the Roman Catholic heresy; the church at Thyatira, the one of "wicked and sudden heresies," forerunner of modernism of today when Bloody Mary sent the saints to the stake and shed the blood of martyrs. Then the pastor spoke of Sardis when Martin Luther arose, the time when the church was "dead" and worldly. He also spoke of the next age, church of Philadelphia, when Wesley Whitfield, Finney

### ALLEY VISITS OLD WHITESIDE HOME

#### Paints Picture Of Beauty And Grandeur Of Carolina Mountains

The Hon. Felix Alley of Waynesville is a prose-poet. He surpasses any man among us in his choice selection of words and his pictures are painted with the artist's touch.

We pass on to our readers one of the most beautiful pictures of his facile pen:

A few days ago, in company with my youngest son and Reverend W. L. Hutchins, pastor of the Methodist church at Waynesville, I went back to the old home and scenes of my childhood at the base of Whiteside mountain, in the southern part of Jackson county, where my parents lived together for fifty-nine years, and where their ten children were born and reared.

G. R. McPherson, T. M. Slaggle, C. A. Lowry.

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DR. F. ANGEL, Purchaser.

### Editor Willing To Furnish Results; But Not Faith

This is a plain word to the business men and women of Franklin and Macon county, and as editor of your paper, I ask you to consider it. Before you lies another county paper here and in a mountain community, by and for mountain people.

It contains less than three pages of reading matter and nine pages of advertising matter. No wonder the editor lives like a lord and boasts of a popularity not common to the profession!

Would you have your paper, not only live, but be the best county newspaper in North Carolina, then those of you who have wares to sell and trade put them before the people through The Press. Who is doing the biggest business in Franklin? The firm that tells the people where to come and buy.

Fasting and prayer will not keep a newspaper going nor fill your place of business with customers. Tell the people what you have on the market. The men who are back of your paper are interested in Macon County, as you are interested, but they must have your sympathetic co-operation. They are not after donations; they are willing to do all the giving; they only want your co-operation and they will make every dollar you spend (Continued on page 8, col. 3)

doctrines of grace, the second coming of Christ, etc. Then he spoke of the "Laodicean" age in which we are living. Christ stands at the door and knocks, (speaking primarily to the church, not individuals only), trying to get in His own church. We can not tell the difference between the church and the world any longer. Let us be not lukewarm. The blood of martyrs is the seed of the church, but today it is not persecution that hurts His cause but worldliness and lack of the Holy Ghost within the church.

### Cooperative Carlot Potato Sale Here Sept. 30--Oct. 1

There will be a cooperative carlot potato sale held at the warehouse of Osbourne Building Material company on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 30 and October 1. The price will be one dollar per bushel paid at the car and the buyer will furnish his own sacks.

All persons who have potatoes for sale at this time may sell in the sale even if they have not seen or notified me of the number they will have. Because of the short time we will have to notify each person I am asking that each person tell their neighbors as soon as possible so they can sell if they desire.

FRED. SLOAN, County Ggent

### Rev. Clifton Irvin Will Preach At Local Methodist Church

Reverend G. Clifton Irvin will preach Sunday morning at the Methodist church on the theme, "Facing the Sunrise." At 7:30 in the evening he will preach on the subject, "What Is In Your Hand?" This service, as well as all the evening services, will be especially for the young people. Mr. Irvin will preach at Carson's Chapel at the afternoon hour.

The Epworth Leagues will hold their services promptly at 6:45 p. m. All the young people of the church and community are cordially invited to attend this service which is of, by and for the young people.

The Third Quarterly Conference will be held next Wednesday evening, October 1st, immediately after the mid-week prayer service. Every member of the Quarterly Conference is urged to attend this meeting.

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which rises 3,000 feet above the level of the sea, and stood upon the rugged cliffs and crags forming that towering mountain, subdued and toned in their gigantic grandeur by the blue haze that is ever present in the Blue Ridge range.

In the days ago, I have oftentimes stood upon those majestic heights at day-break, and, looking toward the East, have watched the sombre drapery of the clouds roll up like a scroll from the rim of the horizon, as the red torch of the Morning enkindled upon the stainless crests of a thousand hills a line of crimson fires, and sent forth ten thousand shafts of light to herald the coming of the God of the Day.

I have stood there when the shadows of the coming darkness were falling around me, and I have seen the Evening hang her silver crescent on the brow of Night, and emulate and equal the awakening glory of the Dawn with the beauty of the sleepy Twilight.

I have stood there in the Winter time at Midnight, and listened sorrowfully to the ice-laden winds as they sighed through the dismantled forests, and watched the snow-fields glistening in the Moonlight like foam-flecked billows in a stormy sea, while a million Stars of Hope flashed back the promise that the soft balmy air and the gentle rains of springtime would come again, and renew the splendors of our beautiful mountain world.

I have stood there in the summer time at noon-day, a thousand feet above the clouds, and watched the thunder-storm beat mercilessly upon (Continued on page 8, col. 1)

### BERT CHOPS WOOD; SAM SWINGS DASH, FOR SHERIFF'S JOB

A gentleman was telling us that he heard that Mr. Bert Slagle was out in the country a few days ago, and in passing a house saw a lady chopping wood, so he goes in and asks her to let him chop the wood for her. After chopping wood for about one hour, and almost exhausted, he took his seat on the front porch to rest, and in the conversation which followed he mentioned that he was running for Sheriff on the Democratic ticket, and would appreciate the support of her and her husband.

The lady remarked, she hardly knew what to say, as Sam Franks was running for Sheriff on the Republican ticket, and that both parties had been so nice to the family, and that Mr. Franks was on the back porch churning.