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# The Franklin Press

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DEDICATED  
TO MACON COUNTY  
And to the Welfare and Prosperity  
of its Good People

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## T. F. RAILWAY LOSING MONEY

Plight of Short Line Is  
Explained Here by  
Officials

### FACES BIG DEFICIT

\$100,000 More Business  
Needed To Meet 1931  
Expenses

Gross passenger revenues of the Tallulah Falls railway declined from \$46,046 in 1925 to \$38,669 in 1930 and freight revenues from \$212,768 in 1925 to \$122,174 in 1930, according to H. L. Brewer, of Cornelia, auditor and assistant to the receiver of the line, which connects with the Southern Railway at Cornelia.

Mr. Brewer gave these and other statistics indicating heavy loss of business by the "T. F." at a meeting of Franklin shippers held in the town hall Thursday night of last week. J. F. Gray, receiver for the railroad, and W. B. Ellard, Jr., traffic manager, also attended the meeting.

#### Outcome Problematical

The line faces an estimated operating deficit this year of approximately \$51,000, it was brought out by Mr. Gray in questioning Mr. Brewer as a witness on the stand. What the outcome will be, neither Mr. Gray nor Mr. Brewer would venture an opinion. However, Mr. Gray did say:

"If the Southern Railroad should decide to stop giving support to the Tallulah Falls railway and have it abandoned, the people of Franklin may rest assured that it will be done in an orderly manner with consideration for everybody concerned. You will be given fair notice and an opportunity to present any arguments you may have against abandonment before the Interstate Commerce Commission."

About a score of Franklin business men and shippers attended the meeting. Mr. Gray, Mr. Brewer and Mr. Ellard were introduced by W. L. Higdon.

The figures quoted by Mr. Brewer showing heavy losses in the railroad's business, were taken from his sworn reports to the Interstate Commerce Commission.

#### Expenses Reduced

While the revenues have been declining, the assistant to the receiver said, large economies in operation costs have been effected in order to keep the line running. In 1925 operation costs totaled \$227,172; in 1930 they were \$178,680. Despite this drop, however, the road's physical condition is better now than it has been since it was put in receivership, Mr. Brewer asserted.

He estimated that, of balance revenues and expenses, the railroad would have to get at least \$100,000 more business this year above the amount already anticipated.

Mr. Ellard told the shippers that the Tallulah Falls railway's freight rates were now on the same level as trunk line rates and were as low as the Interstate Commerce Commission would allow them.

Mr. Gray assured the gathering that he would keep Franklin business men informed as to any new developments in the railroad's affairs. Everything, he assured, would be open and above board.

## DATES ARE SET BY YOUNG FOR TAGGING CATTLE

Don Young, forest ranger, announced Wednesday that hogs and livestock grazing in his district of the Nantahala National forest, would be tagged next week. Representatives of the forestry service will be at Wilson Lick on Monday and at White Oak Bottoms on Tuesday, he said, to tag all livestock in accordance with government regulations.

## BILL LEDFORD IS INJURED IN AUTO ACCIDENT

Bill Ledford, 67, of Rainbow Springs, is in Angel Brothers' hospital recovering from injuries received Sunday morning when an automobile reported to have been driven by Howard Cruise accidentally backed over him. The mishap occurred at Rainbow Springs. Ledford was brought to Angel Brothers' hospital, where it was found his pelvis and several ribs had been broken. He also suffered internal injuries.

## Paul Cheek Fatally Hurt Trying To Scare Friends By Reckless Auto Driving

Paul Cheek, of Prentiss, is dead and Henry Tallent, of Franklin, is suffering from a broken collar bone and cuts on his head as the result of the overturning of an automobile driven by Cheek on the Georgia highway about four miles from Franklin at 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Cheek, it was reported, was zig-zagging the car from side to side of the road to frighten the other occupants. The wheels on one side slipped off the concrete and when he attempted to bring the machine back on the highway it turned over twice, landing back on the wheels.

Cheek was rushed to Angel Brothers' hospital where it was discovered his skull had been fractured, his jaw bone broken in two places and internal injuries suffered. He was unconscious and his condition was viewed as hopeless.

He died at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning. Reported in the car with Cheek, besides Tallent, were Ed Whittington, Thad Dowdle and Cecil Holt. The latter three sustained only minor bruises and cuts.

Cheek had only recently returned to Macon county from Virginia. He bought three farms in the vicinity of Prentiss, giving one to a brother, one to his father and keeping the other for himself. On his own place he had spent considerable money in improvements and equipment. His home was one of the best in the section.

Funeral services were held for Cheek at Union church, Prentiss, at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. He is survived by his widow; his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cheek, and by several sisters and a brother.

## Legislature in Session For More than 120 Days

### FIBRE COMPANY IS EXPANDING

Plant at Canton Plans  
To Use Other Wood  
Than Spruce

Welcome news to all of Western North Carolina is the announcement made last Saturday night by Reuben B. Robertson, president of the Champion Fibre company, that the company would not abandon or curtail its operations at Canton on account of the transfer of 93,000 acres of spruce land to the Great Smoky Mountains National park. Mr. Robertson stated that the company already has launched a modification and expansion program, contemplating the manufacture of new products.

Of especial interest to Macon county was his explanation that the company was planning to utilize woods other than spruce. Considerable interest is centered in the question as to whether this development will afford a new outlet for timber from this section, especially chestnut, millions of feet of which are rotting on the stump.

#### Contracts Awarded

Already, Mr. Robertson said, the company has awarded contracts for \$100,000 in new machinery as a preliminary part of the modification program. Gradually the plant will be changed to increase the output of paper manufactured from other varieties of timber instead of spruce. The plant is also planning the manufacture of additional products including chlorine, caustic soda and other chemicals.

### A Correction

The correspondent, in the last issue of The Press, who reported that Messrs. Chas. and Robert Fulton had given the young people of Bethel community a bridge party had been misinformed. The Epworth League of Bethel church gave a social for its members at the Fulton home, on Wednesday evening. Some of the older people present were: Rev. and Mrs. H. C. Freeman, Mr. L. E. Spahr, Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. Crawford, Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. E. F. Horn. There were forty-eight present. Lemonade and cake were served. Everyone reported a sociable evening.

## Camel Contest Winners To Be Named Next Week

WINSTON-SALEM, May 6.—Prize winners in the Camel cigarette \$50,000 cash prize contest will be announced next week, officials of R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company said today.

The contest judges and their staff, who have been carefully reading the approximately 1,000,000 entries, have completed their work, the announcement stated, and plans are now being completed for the actual awarding of the checks.

Thirty-eight prizes, including a first prize of \$25,000, are to be awarded for the best letters on

### Gardner Asks Support For MacLean's School Law

RALEIGH, May 6.—With a new message before it from Governor Gardner asking for support of the MacLean school law as far as possible by "a reasonable and fair and just and workable system of taxation," the North Carolina General Assembly Wednesday entered upon its 120th day of the present session. Sixty days is the regular time allotted for the biennial gathering of lawmakers.

The school law, passed early in the session and committing the six months school term with taxation other than ad valorem, must be supported by a sales tax of some kind, its proponents say, if it is carried out in entirety.

Governor Gardner, however, a staunch opponent of either the luxury sales tax, which the house has approved but which the senate has killed five times, or the general sales tax, which the house included in its original revenue bill but which also was rejected by the senate, did not come out for a salary tax.

He delivered a special message to a joint session of the house and senate Tuesday night.

"I ask you to take a position of acceptance and support of the MacLean bill," Governor Gardner declared.

However, he qualified his statement by adding:

#### Some Taxation Necessary

"I ask you to recognize frankly, that it will be necessary next year, 1931-32, to levy some ad valorem tax for the support of the current expense budgets of the six months school term in every section of North Carolina.

"It seems to me that the practical sense as well as the logic in our present situation leads irresistibly to the decision that for the present we accept the principle of the MacLean bill and that the state provide from sources other than ad valorem taxes as large a part of the current cost of the six months school term as you can provide for under a reasonable and fair and just and workable system of taxation.

"Beyond that I do not think you are called upon to go. Beyond that I think you should not go."

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bryson, of Highlands, at Angel Brothers' hospital April 28, a son.

## GARDNER NAMES NEW ROAD BODY

Chief Executive Fails  
To Reappoint J. G.  
Stikleather

### 7 MEMBERS NAMED

W. W. Neal, of Marion,  
Is Only Member  
From West

RALEIGH, May 6.—The list of seven appointees to the new State Highway commission submitted to the Senate Monday by Governor Gardner includes the name of only one man from Western North Carolina—Will W. Neal, of Marion. The governor selected Neal in the face of urgent requests from a number of counties in the mountain area for the reappointment of J. G. Stikleather, of Asheville.

Under the provisions of the state road law enacted by the present General Assembly, the commissioners are appointed to represent the state at large and no member is the representative of any particular district.

#### Gardner's Appointees

The list, as announced by the governor, is composed of James H. Clark, Bladen county; N. L. Stedman, Halifax county; T. L. Bland, Wake county; James L. McNair, Scotland county; E. B. Jeffress, Guilford county; C. A. Cannon, Cabarrus county; and Will W. Neal, McDowell county.

The governor appointed E. B. Jeffress chairman of the commission and T. L. Bland as the Republican member.

In announcing the personnel of his commission the governor stated that he had maturely considered all the recommendations made from every section of the state and in addition had conscientiously considered nominations made by himself with a view to selecting seven of the most able men in North Carolina to compose the commission which he considers perhaps the most important and useful body he will appoint during his entire term of office. No member appointed was a candidate for the position.

"There is not a man on the commission," stated the governor, "who is not endowed by ability and interest with high capacity to successfully develop our highway and road policy and to insure the efficient and economical administration of the road law. I consider the composite membership of the commission one of the best balanced, most cohesive and constructive bodies to be found in North Carolina."

#### Ames To Be Engineer

Mr. Leslie R. Ames, scheduled to be appointed chief engineer, is not new to the State Highway department. He had ten years of experience under former Chairman Frank Page, and was Mr. Page's assistant in the period during which the state was engaged in its most active program of highway construction. He was chief engineer from 1926 to 1929. In 1929 he resigned to become state highway engineer of Louisiana, which position he was unable to hold because of a fundamental difference of viewpoint with respect to highway building held by him and by Governor Huey Long.

### Can Company Representative Visits Franklin

L. M. Goodwin, of Baltimore, crop production specialist of the American Can company, and T. D. Holder, of Denton, Md., canning specialist of the Maryland farm extension service, visited Franklin Wednesday and were guests of the Franklin Rotary Club at the club's regular weekly luncheon at the Scott Griffin hotel.

Mr. Goodwin came here to look over the prospects for the establishment of a cannery. He was careful to say that he was not in the business of setting up canneries himself and that he was interested in the field only in an indirect manner. He held out little or no hope of interesting anyone in the establishment of a cannery here this year. He stated the chief purpose of his visit was to obtain information. After the Rotary luncheon he discussed the situation with the county commissioners, C. W. Teague and F. S. Sloan, county farm agent.

## Franklin and Highlands Elections Very Quiet; Hines Defeats Davis

### Plans for Summer Golf And Tennis Tournaments Here Are Made Public

The Franklin Golf club has chosen the following method to determine its best player for 1931.

A monthly tournament will be held from May until October, inclusive. The leader in the first flight in each of these will be eligible to participate in no further monthly tournaments, and his position in the first flight will be filled by the leader of the second flight. Then, on or about Thanksgiving, the winners of the first flight in these monthly tournaments will have a battle royal for the year's championship.

As there will be only six monthly tournaments, the runners up of the two last ones, September and October, will also be eligible for the year's championship. A careful record of each tournament will be kept so in case the winner of either of them is absent, or for any other reason unable to participate, the man standing next to him in the tournament of which he was the winner, will take his place.

The entrance fee will be nominal, only 50 cents. No prizes will be awarded the winners of the first flight in the monthly tournaments, but a small prize will be given each month to the winner of the second flight. At the end of the season, a large prize will be given to the winner of the season's championship, this prize to be chosen by the members of the club.

The May tournament will be held Monday, May 11. This contest will be for low medal score, 18 holes, and all may participate. The winner will be eliminated, and the eight players making the next best scores will constitute the first flight for the June tournament. In the June tournament the winner will drop out, and the winner of the second flight will take his place, and so on through the season.

A monthly tennis tournament will also be held each month, the first to begin May 11.

There will also be an invitation golf tournament to be held the week of July 4.

### Patton Relected Mayor Of Franklin Without Opposition

### REGISTRAR RESIGNS

Fouts, Conley, Dowdle,  
Moore, Penland and  
Angel on Board

George Patton, unopposed, was reelected mayor of Franklin, and J. A. Hines was named to the same office in Highlands, in town elections held Tuesday. Mr. Hines' opponent was W. S. Davis, incumbent.

Elected to serve on the Franklin board of aldermen were:

Dr. J. H. Fouts, J. S. Conley, M. L. Dowdle, J. M. Moore, Ras Penland, T. W. Angel.

#### How They Voted

Following is a list of the candidates with the number of votes they polled:

J. H. Fouts, 183; J. S. Conley, 157; W. B. McGuire, 106; M. L. Dowdle, 181; J. M. Moore, 138; S. A. Munday, 35; Ras Penland, 196; J. B. Henry, 41; J. E. Perry, 87; Sam L. Franks, 66; J. B. Pendergrass, 76; T. W. Angel, 112; W. Rol Carpenter, 58; J. E. Lancaster, 96; E. W. Long, 80; Elizabeth Kelly, 81; Joseph Ashcar, 39.

Mayor Patton polled 261 ballots. The total registration was 432. Three ballots were ruled out on account of being defaced.

#### Blaine Resigns

C. T. Blaine resigned as registrar the night before election without explanation. Mayor Patton appointed John W. Edwards in his place. The judges were Alex Moore and George Carpenter. Election day both in Franklin and Highlands was quiet with bad weather cutting down the size of the vote.

#### Highlands Vote

J. A. Hines polled 115 votes in the Highlands mayoralty race, to 62 for W. S. Davis. C. J. Anderson, J. E. Potts, L. W. Rice, J. J. Smith and J. M. Hall were elected to the Highlands board of commissioners. The full list of candidates with their votes follows:

C. J. Anderson, 142; S. T. Marrett, 70; J. E. Potts, 171; L. W. Rice, 134; J. J. Smith, 101; J. M. Hall, 117; M. A. Pierson, 92.

### HENRY D. WEST OPENS RETAIL GROCERY STORE

Henry D. West, formerly employed by the Farmers Supply company, has leased the Farmers' Federation building on Palmer street and gone into the retail grocery business in his own name. Mr. West, who is well known in Franklin and throughout the county, announced the opening of his store the first of the week. He already has a good stock of staple groceries and feed stuffs on his shelves. Later, he said, he planned to enlarge his business to include shoes, overalls, etc.

The name of the business will be West's Grocery company. It occupies one of the most spacious buildings in town. In rear of the main store room is another large room which Mr. West said he would put at the disposal of farmers for storing produce temporarily when they are unable to find an immediate sale.

received training that is enabling them to earn comfortable livelihoods, and to lead happy, useful lives. Mr. Billings is desirous of assisting any resident of Macon county, who, through accident or otherwise, has physical handicap that limits his or her ability to earn a living.

Mr. Warren, during his visit here, spoke especially of the help given to those who have lost limbs, in securing artificial limbs at cost, and of the vocations taught to those who, through physical injuries received in accidents, can no longer pursue their former occupations. Mr. Warren, who is assistant to H. L. Stanton of Raleigh, has his headquarters at the District office of the Welfare department, City Hall, Charlotte, N. C.

### PLAN CONCERT SUNDAY NIGHT

Methodist Singers Are  
To Render Mother's  
Day Program

The choir of the Franklin Methodist church will present a special program Sunday evening at 8 o'clock to which everyone in the community is cordially invited. A Mother's Day "Songologue" will be presented.

The program will consist of solos, duets, quartets, and chorus numbers—all on the theme of "Mother." The choir, under the direction of Mrs. Boyce Munday, has been working tirelessly on this program, and an excellent musical presentation is assured. An offering will be taken after the program to be used in helping to pay for the new vestments worn by the choir. This is the only Methodist vest choir west of Asheville. A large attendance is expected at this program.

At the morning hour, the Rev. G. Clifton Ervin will speak on the theme, "The Challenge of Motherhood." A special Mother's Day solo will be sung by Mrs. Boyce Munday.

The regular service will be held at Carson's Chapel at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

### Make Inspection Tour Of Nantahala Forest

J. E. Burch, in the lands division of the forestry office, and Mr. I. T. Yarnell, assistant regional forester of the regional office, both of Washington, D. C., have been making an inspection of the Nantahala forest. Mr. Dort, regional engineer, also has been making an inspection.

### Plans Are Completed For Training School

Beginning Sunday evening, May 17, a community school for the training of Sunday school teachers and leaders in church activities will be held at the Methodist church. At 7 o'clock on Sunday evening, May 17, a joint meeting of all the young people's societies of the community will be held in the Baptist church. The special speaker at this meeting will be Mrs. D. D. Taber, who is a field worker of the national council of the Episcopal church. She will address the young people on the subject of "The Christian Leadership of Young People."

Classes will start on Monday evening, May 18, at 7:30. There will be two class periods an even-

ing, running from 7:30 to 9:30 with a ten-minute intermission between periods. Three courses will be taught. Mrs. D. D. Taber will teach a course for young people and leaders of young people. A course on primary and junior methods and materials will be taught by Miss Amy Harrison and Mrs. G. Clifton Ervin. The Rev. G. Clifton Ervin will teach a course on the Life of Christ.

A cordial invitation is extended all the people of the community to attend these classes. The Methodist, Baptist, Presbyterian and Episcopal churches are cooperating in conducting this school. Mrs. J. W. Cante Johnson is the supervisor of the school.