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FOURTEEN PAGES

I Went . . . **UNTO THOSE HILLS**

By J. P. BRADY

This is going to be one of those "I went, I saw, I liked" sagas, concerning any number of people, including Macon County's own, an excellent drama, and it will probably contain a moral.

And like all good stories, it begins with once upon a time. So, once upon a time, just about a year ago to be more specific, a new-born babe with a story to tell tried out its lungs with resounding success. This newcomer, a top drawer attraction from the start, was named "Unto These Hills". Its story is a down-to-earth enactment of what the Cherokee Indians faced in the onrush of a growing democracy.

Well, little "Unto These Hills" Saturday night celebrated what appears to be the first of many Happy Birthdays, and entered its second season of tale-telling. Good plays, like cheese, ripen with age, and the Cherokee story, with a year's maturity under its belt, is no exception to the rule.

Following its birth last year, the garnishing of flowery superlatives from newspapers and critics ordinarily would have swelled the head of Western North Carolina's newest tourist booster. However, being a rather brainy child with an eye to the future, "Unto These Hills" set out to improve itself instead of relaxing on its laurels. And improve it did!

Some revisions in the music and story department, all to the good we might add, better setting, and a will to please a fickle public has reserved a place for the drama on the rocket to fame, bearing an act of Congress, if course. And the only possible objection this county's governing body could have would be the use of red costumes. So, we can assume that the play is here to stay.

By some weird stroke of fate (the boss couldn't make it) this reporter journeyed to the Cherokee village Friday to cover a meeting of the Western North Carolina Associated Communities. I soon found out that I wasn't far from home. A rather hefty portion of Franklin, all beating the heat in the shade, formed a welcoming party. They were headed by Franklin's own mayor, R. M. Dillard, who emphatically denied that he was in Cherokee to clean the place up. In fact, he at one time lived in Cherokee.

Being birds of a feather, the locals stuck close together, through dinner, the meetings, and preview showing of the drama at the Mountainside theatre.

Throughout the afternoon perspiration reigned and that night a different kind of moisture, just as wet as the other, made an unscheduled appearance. But that comes later!

Most of those from Franklin moved a step closer home for supper by dropping down on the "midway" and eating at the Sequoyah restaurant. The restaurant owner was none other than S. W. (Sammy) Beck, Franklin's band director, who by his own admission serves the best "10 cent hamburgers in town for 40 cents". During supper Mr. Beck supervised the erection of a new sign in front of his restaurant and calmly received the news that he had just become a father.

Nobly restraining from whistling, at the shorts-clad lady tourists, who were very much in evidence (ah Spring!) we began the migration to the Mountainside theatre. (Thinking back, that whistling could have been a near fatal move. My wife was along!) Before long the amphitheatre was packed, the lights dimmed, and the show began.

What a relief to see a show without a popcorn eater pursuing his fluffy grain in your ear!

Charles Browning, a Franklinite who is making quite a name for himself in theatrics, appeared in the role of "White Path" and turned in a sterling performance. He played the same role last year and turned in a

4-H Dress Review Set For Today

Twenty-two 4-H girls have indicated they plan to take part in the county-wide 4-H Dress Review this afternoon (Thursday) at the Agricultural building, Mrs. Barbara B. Hunnicutt, assistant home agent, said this week.

The show will begin at 2 o'clock. Each entry will be given a small gift by the assistant home agent and winners will be presented ribbons.

The public is invited to attend the review.

3 INJURED THIS WEEK ON MACON COUNTY ROADS

Two Accidents Reported On Bryson City Road, One On Highlands

Three persons were injured in three automobile accidents on Macon County highways this week—one injury a result of the highway buckling under summer heat.

Two of the accidents occurred on the Bryson City highway. Saturday afternoon about 2:30 o'clock Mrs. J. R. Pressley, of Canton, was admitted to a local hospital for treatment of head injuries. Her husband told investigating officers that the cement buckled in front of his automobile and he was forced to swerve to the side of the road. Frank Bailey, of Franklin, Route 4, a passenger, was uninjured.

The second accident on the Bryson City stretch happened Sunday afternoon about 6 o'clock Mrs. Logan Allen, Sr., and Mrs. Sam Bowers, both of Franklin, were admitted to a local hospital for treatment. Mrs. Allen suffered head injuries and Mrs. Bowers was treated for cuts and bruises.

The driver of the car, Thomas Russell Turpin, 30, of Franklin and the U. S. Navy, told officers that he was forced off the road by an automobile passing another in a curve. Damage to Mr. Turpin's car, a 1951 Chevrolet, was estimated at \$1,100. He was not injured.

Tuesday evening about 6:30 o'clock Hyman Schildhouse, a salesman from Cleveland, Ohio, lost control of his automobile on the Highlands road and rolled down an embankment into the mountain stream running at the side of the highway. The salesman, although shaken up, was not injured.

Power Company President Is Named To Association Board Of Trustees

John M. Archer, Jr., president of the Nantahala Power and Light company here, was elected to the board of trustees of the Cherokee Historical Association at a meeting in Cherokee Friday afternoon.

During the day the association played host to members of the Western North Carolina association, which celebrated its first anniversary at the Cherokee meeting.

Among those from here who attended the meetings and an advance showing of the Cherokee drama, "Unto These Hills", were Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Cabe, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Whitmire, Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Dillard, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Reber, Paul Russell, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Duncan.

Lion Birthday Calendars Now On Sale, Reber Says

Lion Ted Reber announced this week that a limited number of community birthday calendars have been obtained for sale to persons who failed to sign for one when the Lion's fund-raising campaign was in progress.

Calendars may be purchased at the Western Auto store or from Mr. Reber for 50 cents. All pre-purchased calendars have been distributed or mailed, he said.

Korea — and July Fourth AN OPEN LETTER To Men in Service

Dear Fellows:

Last Sunday marked the end of a year of war in Korea. And on next Wednesday the Declaration of Independence will be 175 years old.

This letter is suggested by those anniversaries. I suspect, though, that it is prompted, too, by something quite different: The azalea and the laurel are in bloom on the mountainsides; and that reminds us at home that this is the time when young people usually are going on camping trips, and that it soon will be time for family reunions.

This is an attempt by one who has a son in Korea to put on paper some of the things I think most of us back home feel at this season; to try to say what we would say, if we could be with you today, and sit down and talk with you.

We would tell you, first of all, of course, the news from home.

We would tell you about the plans for celebrating Independence Day—about the usual, typically American greased pig and greased pole stunts, the baseball games, the dances; about the crowds that will be pushing and yelling and laughing, as though they hadn't a care in the world; about the big American flags—bought by most business houses in your little countyseat town for the occasion—that will be flying everywhere.

We would tell you about the movements getting under way here to clean up and beautify towns and countryside in this naturally beautiful region; that we are setting out to do such a good job of community house cleaning that you will hardly know the place when you come home again.

And we would tell you that the school building program, for which your community went so heavily in debt a few years ago, is moving forward; and that we are determined that what goes on inside the new schools shall be as much improved as the buildings themselves, so that the boys and girls who are coming on shall have better chances than you had.

As we gave you these bits of news from home, it would be our hope that you would realize what they mean to us—that these seemingly little things are a part of our effort to make democracy work, to prove that we deserve freedom. In short, that we, at home, are trying to preserve and make worth while the things that you, away from home, are trying to save.

We would try to tell you, maybe with a little embarrassment, how proud we are of you. But we would add that you are doing no more than your duty—a thing to remember, now and always.

We would tell you how overjoyed we are at the prospect of peace in Korea. And just here it probably would be you who would tell us something: Not to be too optimistic; that Korea almost certainly is only a phase of what may be a long struggle between dictatorship and freedom.

And if we were entirely honest, we would tell you that there have been times when the war in Korea has seemed to us futile and hopeless; that we have been confused by the long, bitter MacArthur controversy in Washington; that we find it hard to make sense of what is going on in the world.

But, as we talked, other wars would come to mind, and undoubtedly one of us would recall that almost every American war, at the time seemed futile and hopeless. Then, as we discussed the MacArthur hearing, I think we finally would agree as to what the row was all about—not whether we should be fighting in Korea, but how that war should be won. And gradually I think it would occur to both of us that there is a connection between the war in Korea and the Declaration of Independence.

Because today's struggle, like World Wars 1 and 2—yes, and like that long and seemingly hopeless war that started 175 years ago—is over just one thing: Whether men shall be ruled or whether they shall be free.

And so, as we talked on, I believe at last it would dawn upon us that the war in Korea is only the immediate reason you are in uniform; that the real reason is something deeper and much closer home; that we are fighting not chiefly for Korea or the Koreans, but for the rights and the freedoms and the principles that Hancock, Jefferson, Franklin and those other young daredevils demanded when they set their signatures to that revolutionary document, back in 1776.

"Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."
Those words, so familiar to us all, have a new meaning in today's world. For what does a life mean, who has any liberty, how can anyone pursue happiness, in the ever-expanding area under the Kremlin dictatorship?

And as we left you, to come back home, I believe surely another phrase from the Declaration would occur to us, and send us hurrying back to our work at home—

" . . . we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor."
—Weimar Jones.

Bradleys Hold Family Reunion

A Bradley family reunion, the first since 1947, was held over the week-end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bradley, Franklin, Route 3.

All of Mr. and Mrs. Bradley's nine children were present at the gathering. All of their grandchildren also were present, with the exception of Sgt. Billy J. Gibson, who is in Korea, and Jimmy Bradley, of Winston-Salem.

Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Carl V. Bradley and two sons, of Claremont, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. Hargrave Parrish and two sons, of Franklin, Route 3, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gibson and three daughters, of Franklin, Route 4, Mr. and Mrs. Troy L. Bradley and son, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Cook and son, Mr. and Mrs. Connette Johnson and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Verlin Bradley and two sons, and Miss Betty Bradley, all of Winston-Salem.

The Rev. A. Rufus Morgan Is Awarded Fellowship For His Work In Macon

The Rev. A. Rufus Morgan, rector of the Episcopal church here, for his work among rural mountain people, was awarded a world fellowship at the 27th meeting of the National Rural Workers Fellowship of the Episcopal church held in Pennsylvania Friday, it has been learned.

Will Hold Bible School Commencement Sunday

Commencement exercises for the vacation Bible school being held at the Franklin Presbyterian church will be held at 7:30 o'clock Sunday evening at the church.

Each class will present a representative part of its work, and awards will be made. The two-week school ended its first week with an enrollment of 50, including the eight teachers.

MINER'S GROUP HEARS PRAISE FROM GEOLOGIST

Yancey Miner's Behind Local Association, President Says

Sixty-five members of the Miner's association Friday night heard Robert F. Lawrence, federal geologist for the southeastern region, compliment their organization on the advancement it has made since it was formed in April.

Referring to the organization's rapidly expanding program, Mr. Lawrence said far more will be accomplished as soon as the organization's domestic mica program gets under way and membership grows.

The regional geologist and a crew of co-workers from Knoxville, Tenn. spent last week in this area inspecting mining properties.

During the meeting Roy H. Fouts, secretary, reported that a membership drive during the week had swelled the organization's total paid membership to \$21. A number of other miners, the secretary said, indicated that they planned to join later.

Mr. Lawrence also answered a number of questions in regard to applying for government loans for exploration purposes. He said it was his belief that the June 30 deadline for loan applications would be extended since a number of people have not learned of the program which only was started in April.

Yates Bennett, president of the Yancey County miner's unit, pledged the support of his group and thanked members of the local organization for inviting his group to affiliate with the association.

Treasurer of the Yancey unit, C. F. Connor, spoke briefly on the international situation which has stimulated the government's interest in a domestic mica program. He pointed out that mica imports from India have been discontinued making it necessary to find a new source of supply for defense needs.

Carl Buchanan, speaking in behalf of Jackson County miners, said his county was looking to the association for leadership and would need its assistance.

A representative of Armstrong Brothers in Atlanta, Ga., Archie Chapman, spoke briefly on the importance of the association's work in a community.

DEACONS WILL MEET

Deacons of Macon County Baptist churches plan to meet at the Holly Springs Baptist church tomorrow (Friday) night, it has been announced. Supper will be served at 7 o'clock and a program is scheduled to follow.

HONEYCUTT TO PREACH

The Rev. W. Jackson Honeycutt, superintendent of the Waynesville Methodist district, will preach at the morning service Sunday at the Franklin Methodist church.

"Biggest And Best" Fourth Is Planned

This country's celebration of its 175th year of independence should be a smashing success if Macon County's plans for the Fourth of July are any indication.

Ironically, the Fourth will be celebrated right on the heels of another anniversary marking a fight for freedom. The war in Korea was a year old last week.

With an early start this year, Independence Day planners have gone all-out to provide a full day of festivities for celebrants and they hope this year will prove to be the "biggest and best" Fourth yet.

Merrymaking will begin at 10 a. m. with a king-size parade complete with floats. Immediately after the parade festivities will resume at Franklin High athletic field where two beauty contests and field events for boys and girls and men and women are planned. A baseball game at 3 o'clock between Franklin and Lenoir, Ga. will keep folks in the spirit of things until the Veterans of Foreign Wars square dance gets underway at the Franklin airport at 8:30 o'clock.

A greasy pole with \$5 on its top and cash prizes and merchandise for field event winners should provide the incentive to keep "everyone in there trying", committeemen pointed out. And a greasy pig, donated by Lee Poindexter and Down's Feed and Grocery, will test the grappling skill of anyone desiring to catch the elusive porker.

Interest in the beauty contest mounted this week following the disclosure that 14 local businesses plan to enter a contestant. A special float for contestants is being arranged. All girls entered in the contest are asked to meet Tuesday night at 8 o'clock at the chamber of commerce building to assist in decorating the beauty chariot.

Winner of the contest will be crowned "Queen of the Fourth" at the V. F. W. square dance that night, and will be awarded a \$15 cash prize. Runnerup will be given \$10.

Floats entered in the parade will be judged on the basis of originality. Decorating costs cannot exceed \$3. Cash prizes are to be awarded to winning entries.

Those planning to take part in the parade are asked to meet at the east side of the post office at 9:30 o'clock. Order of march is the Franklin band, American Legion post, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Veterans of Foreign Wars post, and floats.

A feature of the field events will be an "old fashioned" bathing beauty contest in which women will model the bathing attire of yesteryear. Mrs. Grace O'Mohundro, in charge of the contest, requests all entries to meet with her at the chamber of commerce building Tuesday night at 8 o'clock to assist with the "old fashioned" float.

Field events for boys and men include a sack race, potato

race, three-legged race, fat man's race, 100 yard dash for boys over 14 years, 50 yard dash for boys under 14, wheelbarrow race, bear walking race, baseball throw for distance, basketball throw for distance. Prizes will also be given to the oldest man and the tallest man.

Girls' and women's events planned are 50 yard dash for girls over 15, 50 yard dash for girls under 15, potato race, high kicking slipper contest, married woman's race, husband and wife relay, basketball throw for distance, wheelbarrow race, bear walking race, and prizes will be awarded to the oldest and tallest lady.

Following are some of the prizes being donated by local merchants: (Fourth planners pointed out that a number of merchants have not yet been contacted and said additional prizes probably will be added later.) Baldwin's market, carton of cigarettes; Belk's Department store, boy's sport shirt and a pair of girl's blue jeans; Perry's Drug store, flashlight; Franklin 5 and 10, lamp; Bower's Department store, ladies' blouse; Macon County Supply, harmonica; Macon theatre, eight free tickets; Sossamon's Furniture store, card table; Jamison's Jewellery, boys' pocket watch; Macon Furniture company, lawn table; Quality shop, pair of ladies' hose; Reeves Hardware store, \$2.50 merchandise; Carolina Pharmacy, pound box of candy; Western Auto store, telescope (fishing rod); Franklin Hardware, Duncan-Briggs fly rod reel; Bryant Furniture store, lamp; Angel's Drug store, fountain pen; Townsend's cafe, carton of cigarettes; Children's shop, sun suit; Crisp's studio, two rolls of 620 film; Blumenthal's, sport shirt; Dryman's cafe, cigarette lighter; Theatre grill, two pipes; Franklin Press, one free subscription; Dixie Home store, box of candy; Bank of Franklin, five silver dollars; Burrell Motor company, plastic garment bag and hangers; Cagle's cafe, \$1 dinner; Frances' Shop, copper flower hanger.

Planners for the Fourth are representatives of various Franklin organizations. Committees are as follows: Organization: W. C. Crawford, chairman, Paymond Lowe, Wayne Proffitt, Harry Corbin, He-man children, Mrs. Tom Jenkins, Miss Kate McGee, and Mrs. Howard. Parade: W. W. Howard, chairman; Norman. Bob Sloan, Base. James Elaine and. Planning is under supervision of B. L. McCaskey, chairman of the chamber of commerce July 4 committee.

Clean-up Campaign Here Begins To Show Results

With two town employes assigned full-time to the job, the Franklin clean-up this week began to show results.

At the intersection of Maple street and the Murphy highway, a clean-up job has been done that also eliminated a traffic hazard. A fence, overgrown with vines, which obscured motorists' vision, has been removed, and other tidying up has been done at that spot.

The rubbish on the Baptist church lot, at the corner of West Main and Porter streets, has been hauled away, and Howard Stewart, it is understood, will use his bulldozer to level the dirt recently placed on the lot in preparation for eventually building a church there.

The Weather

Temperatures and precipitation for the past seven days, and the low temperature yesterday, as recorded at the Coweets Experiment station.

| | High | Low | Pet. |
|-----------|------|-----|------|
| Wednesday | 78 | 61 | |
| Thursday | 85 | 55 | .91 |
| Friday | 87 | 58 | |
| Saturday | 89 | 58 | .25 |
| Sunday | 89 | 59 | |
| Monday | 89 | 59 | |
| Tuesday | 85 | 58 | .08 |
| Wednesday | 85 | 57 | .43 |

Franklin Rainfall
(As recorded by Macon Sales for TVA)
Wednesday, none; Thursday, .03; Friday, none; Saturday, .02; Sunday, none; Monday, none; Wednesday, .40.