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and
The Highlands Maroonist

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Balance of Power Shifts

VIRGINIA'S Governor John S. Battle disagrees with the recent statement of Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, that racial segregation in the South will be abandoned within 10 years.

Governor Battle explains that Mr. White does not "know the South".

That probably is true.

But the point is that the South is likely to have little to say about what happens along this line within the next 10 years, just as the South has had little to say about what has happened the last 10.

For the truth is—and it is time we in the South faced it—that the balance of political power once held by the South has passed to the Negro. Mr. White boasts that that racial minority now holds the balance of power in 15 populous states. And political developments of recent years offer abundant evidence that both parties are conscious of, and responsive to, the change.

That is the situation as of today. What the result will be is anybody's guess.

That the situation is what it is, incidentally, is a somewhat discouraging commentary on the progress of Americans toward political maturity. Because, from the viewpoint of democracy and of good government, control by a regional minority was bad, but control by a racial minority is infinitely worse.

Little

This newspaper expressed the opinion recently that Dean Acheson should resign as secretary of state; not because he is a poor secretary, or because his policies are poor, but because he has lost the confidence of a considerable section of the American public. That opinion remains unchanged.

But, for the time being, Mr. Acheson is our secretary of state, and he holds that important position in a time of international crisis. And when Republican members of a house committee last week attempted to withhold funds for the State department from an emergency appropriation bill, they struck a new low in littleness. To seek to paralyze the whole State department, at a time like this, just because they do not like Mr. Acheson, not only was contemptible beyond words; it was almost unbelievably stupid politics.

There are times when it looks like the Republican leadership in congress is determined to reelect Mr. Truman. A few more tricks like this, and they will.

Dope In The High Schools

The problem of addiction to narcotics among high school students is not serious in Maryland, says that state's governor, Theodore Roosevelt McKeldin.

The Maryland executive no doubt is correct in suggesting that the prevalence of this evil among high school students may have been exaggerated. That, however, is no warrant for dismissing the problem.

So long as dope is peddled in the United States, there is a problem. And we respectfully suggest to Governor McKeldin that so long as even one high school student is solicited by these dope peddlers, the problem is serious.

The narcotics situation in this country is little short of a national scandal. That it is spreading into the high schools calls for action. Making sale of narcotics to high school students a capital crime might be the sort of action that is needed.

The Real Villain

There's a lot of talk about President Truman and what a mess he's made of things (some say). Mr. Acheson is the butt of a few jokes and a lot of bitter criticism. Governor Scott on occasion has been called some names. And on the local level, all the

office-holders are subject to criticism, right and left.

Well, we respectfully suggest that all the critics have passed up the real villain. And we're going to come right out, boldly, and say what we're talking about. We're talking about the same thing everybody else is talking about—the Weather.

The coldest, latest spring in many a year. Then the driest spell in decades. Then the hottest (yep, even in the mountains it's been hot—but, being a member of the chamber of commerce, we'll quickly add that of course it was a lot hotter out of the mountains)—the hottest weather on record. And now it rains . . . and rains . . . and rains . . .

Yes, sir, the critics have wasted their ammunition. The real heel in the world of 1951 is nobody but the Weather Man.

What candidate will come out for a New Deal in Weather Men, for Weather Men who'll really do something about the Weather?

Anybody running on that platform will get our vote!

Our American Civilization

Tearing down all the old buildings in America to make room for something modern. Touring Europe to view its picturesque and historic old buildings.

Working like a horse today so as to live like a lord tomorrow. Finding, tomorrow, that life is hardly worth living—that if it was yesterday we could enjoy it.

Assuming that the value of a teacher can be measured in college units. Finding ourselves with some teachers holding "A" certificates who cannot speak good English.

Letters

ABOUT UNION SCHOOL

Editor, The Press:

In regard to the new school building, the people of the Union district and surrounding communities are about to pull the cord (The Bell of Atri).

It has been reported that the building blocks which were laid down at the Union site are being hauled away to another job. Now we want to know why our building can't be started, if not built rapidly. We haven't said we would not pay our part in the school bonds, so why the discrimination?

It was reported once that brick masons were not available; at the same time there were masons who were not at work. Again, that foremen were needed; yet there were foremen in the county who have had years of supervision experience. Even in this district there is sufficient force, including foreman, masons and laborers, to do the job and who need the work.

Then, if the labor is here, and the foundation material is on the job or available, and the site leveled, what is the hold up? I see no reason why a gesture of some kind can't be made or some evidence of good intentions shown.

I understand there is no time limit on any of the jobs. But with government allowance of material for schools, how is it that private building is going on without too much hitch?

Now we don't know what kind of trade the board made with the contractor, nor do we particularly care, but what we do want to know: Are we going to get a school building built, and when?

We would like to ask the officials in charge of the building program to give us some hint as to what they really intend to do. Please address your reply directly to the communities of the Union district.

J. L. SANDERS

P. S. The officials stated, at a meeting, according to one of our citizens, that they saw no reason why the school building should not be completed by the time school starts in the fall.

Others' Opinions

DON'T JUMP HASTILY!

The news is getting around that the net income of American farmers this year may equal the 1947 record.

But let's not jump hastily to the conclusion that this will be a year of peak prosperity for agriculture.

The Department of Agriculture notes that farm income will not buy as much as it did four years ago. Nor will this year's agricultural earnings be as large a share of the national income as in 1947.

Dollars totals can be misleading. Actually, the statisticians tell us that farmers will have to have an income 12 per cent above that of 1947 to pay for a living equal to the standard of that year.—Smithfield Herald.

AMERICANISM

If an orator were asked to discuss Americanism as distinguished from other world 'isms, he'd have a subject upon which to roll his cadences. But after he'd appealed to history and literature and economics and politics and every other source for logic and language with which to round out his eloquence, he still would fall short of the explanation of Americanism given in the six sentences of the editor of the Louis-

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

MONEY IS AS MONEY DOES

Money makes the Pot boil. —AESOP
Money makes the Mare go. —ANON.
Ready money is Aladdin's lamp. —BYRON
Money will always be in Fashion. —THOS. FULLER
Money makes Mastery. —CERVANTES

—THUS POETS AND PHILOSOPHERS AGREE THAT MONEY IS IMPORTANT AND THAT MONEY HAS POWER.

A Sound Dollar has stability in its power to purchase the Goods and Services necessary to our Well-being.

A Sound Dollar encourages Savings for the Future, makes them more potent for Security.

A Sound Dollar is a Symbol and Instrument of Well-being & Independence.

KEEPING THE DOLLAR SOUND IS THE PURPOSE OF OUR FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION.

ville Journal, who said:

If you want Papa to take care of you—that's Paternalism.

If you want Mama to take care of you—that's Momism.

If you want Herbert Hoover to take care of you—that's Isolationism.

If you want Uncle Sam to take care of you—that's Socialism.

If you want Uncle Joe to take care of you—that's Communism.

But—if you want to take care of yourself—that's Americanism.—Florence (S. C.) Morning News.

DOGS VERSUS SHEEP

An act passed in the recent session of the assembly provides for the protection and advancement of sheep raising, poultry and livestock industry in North Carolina, and creating the office of county dog warden to help further this advancement. In an effort to help the farmer who wishes to grow sheep the act authorizes the board of county commissioners in each county in the state to appoint a dog warden, and to determine the amount of his salary and travel allowance, both of which would be paid out of the proceeds of a county dog tax.

Jackson county is well adapted to the sheep growing industry and it could be made as profitable as any other industry and to mean as much to the county in the way of additional cash income as a large industrial plant.

Another county in Western North Carolina has 35,000 ewes on its pastures. Each one of these ewes produces an average of one and a half lambs per season, which in turn bring around \$23 each when marketed. This means that the 35,000 ewes producing 52,500 lambs, selling for \$23 bring in \$1,207,500 cash per year, not counting the income from the wool. Does sheep growing pay? Just ask some of the farmers in Ashe county. This great sheep raising industry has not been built up overnight. But with the eradication of stray dogs it can be developed in a few years.—The Sylva Herald.

THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

Foreign visitors, particularly our English friends, are more than likely to observe sooner or later during their stay here that the American people are sure eventually to lose the use of their legs. True enough, if there is a choice between riding and walking we ride—the thought of walking usually doesn't even cross our minds. The kind of footpath for which the English countryside is famous is almost as rare in the United States as is a six-lane superhighway in England. But not quite.

Though it may surprise most foreigners and a great many Americans as well, there are walkers in this country; and there are some mighty fine places for them to walk. One of the most remarkable places of all—in this or any other continent—is the "footpath through the wilderness" that runs more than two thousand miles from Mount Katahdin in Maine to Mount Oglethorpe in Georgia: the justly famous Appalachian Trail.

Originally conceived by Benton MacKaye in 1921, the trail was established as an entity in the summer of 1937, but the hurricane of the following year damaged parts of it. What with various subsequent misadventures, including parkway construction and the Second World War, it is only this spring that it has become a continuous trail for the whole distance once again—thanks to the efforts of local hiking clubs, the Park and Forest Services and the private coordinating body called the Appalachian Trail Conference.

Of course not many people will take advantage of the occasion to hike the whole way from Georgia to Maine—though it has been done; but anyone who has ever walked along one of its breath-taking ridges or through its beautiful woodlands or across its sunny meadows will gain satisfaction in knowing that the Appalachian Trail has at last been restored to its pre-war glory.—New York Times.

Business Making News

By BOB SLOAN

This column this week would like to mention a couple of success stories which we believe it will pay young Macon County men to read before they catch the next bus for Detroit or Pontiac.

In the middle twenties a family moved to Franklin from Georgia which had as one of its members a big red headed boy. The boy went through high school here and he is still remembered as one of the hardest running full backs Franklin foot ball fans ever cheered for. After finishing high school here he worked in different jobs including a job with the state highway department. He married a local girl. In the early forties he became manager of Stewart's Esso service station. By hard work and giving the public good service he built a good business. Recently he has advanced another step by becoming a partner in a new oil company here which will distribute Amoco gas and oil. We believe that the future looks brighter for D. A. "Red" Stewart than any local boy we know who has taken a flyer on Detroit. Besides he is working for himself.

At the end of the war Porter Duncan went to work for Red Stewart in his filling station. He worked long and hard and it was a small business and Red couldn't pay him too much. Often times he gassed up the car of a group of boys who were off to the northern cities for the big jobs and high wages. Too, he talked to them when they were here on vacation or laid off because of a strike. But he stuck with the job. Now he is manager of the filling station where he went to work. He has a good opportunity. There is no time clock in the filling station. If he loafs he hurts himself; if he works hard he is helping himself. There are no lay-offs due to strikes, change over in work or anything else. Porter owns his own home. We wonder how many Macon County men who have gone to Detroit own their homes or instead are pouring money down the drain in the form of rent.

We believe that the above are two examples of the fact that if you will work hard and STAY WITH IT there are opportunities in Macon County for young men.

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

The usual Saturday's crowds of county people failed to show up in the town Saturday owing to harvest and working crops.

Walter McConnell and Dick Sellers left yesterday morning bound for Douglas, Wyoming, to make their fortunes. We hope they will succeed.

Rev. J. A. Deal has cleaned up and labeled the cabinet of mineral specimens that belongs to the county, and put it into a much better condition than heretofore.

25 YEARS AGO

The machinery for the new creamery has arrived and those in charge hope to start making butter by the end of the present week.

On Sabbath, July 4th, at 11 o'clock, Rev. J. H. Flannagan will be ordained pastor of the Franklin Presbyterian church.

Monday the Franklin Troop Boy Scouts will leave for their annual week's camping trip.

10 YEARS AGO

The dedication service of the new Asbury church will begin Sunday at 11 o'clock. Rev. J. C. Swalm, pastor of the church, will preside at the ceremony.

Before an audience of between five and seven hundred people the Fifth Sunday Singing convention had one of their most successful meetings of the year in the Macon County courthouse Sunday.

Behind the excellent pitching of Dan "Fog Ball" Reynolds and sparkling infield play which produced three double plays, the Franklin All Stars defeated the Sylva team 4 to 3.