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and  
The Highlands Maconian

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APRIL 17, 1952

The Next School Board

Seven county offices are to be filled this year, representative, five seats on the county board of education, and surveyor. And Saturday is the last day for candidates to file for the primary election.

Yet as this is written (Monday morning) none has filed, and only one—C. Tom Bryson, for re-nomination and reelection as representative—has been announced.

Every public office is important, and among county offices none is more important than the county board of education; since its members fix school policies, to a very large extent they determine the future of the county.

Of the five present members of the board, three—Chairman Bob Sloan, Walter Bryson, and Walter Gibson—have told friends they will not stand for reelection.

Are those three places to be left vacant on the next board? Or are they to be filled by whoever may file at the last minute Saturday, without reference to qualifications?

If competent, forward-looking men and women do not offer their services on this board, then they will have nobody but themselves to blame, should our school program bog down during the next two-year term.

You Tell Us!

Last week Congress voted to extend the President's "emergency war powers" to July 1. And that bill is a mere stop-gap until the legislators can get around to voting on a long-term extension.

These are the war powers granted the President for the emergency of World War 2.

That war ended in 1945, nearly seven years ago! What does all this mean? You tell us!

Which Way, Cullowhee?

Western Carolina Teachers College, state institution at Cullowhee, is rapidly expanding. As it expands its physical facilities, how should it expand? It should have a supper so bountiful that the tables were still in North Carolina region?

That question, the subject of an interesting and spirited discussion at a recent meeting of the Franklin Rotary club, is of importance to the general public of this whole area.

Few people outside of the college have any conception of the physical expansion that is taking place. Dr. Paul Reid, W. C. T. C. president, prefaced the discussion by pointing out that the new buildings will make it possible for the college to increase its student body from about 600 to about 1,000.

The structures going up at Cullowhee include a million-dollar classroom building with a quarter of a million dollars' worth of equipment; a million-dollar dormitory, to contain 150 rooms with 75 baths—room for 300 students; and a \$750,000 library that will be "as fine, for its size, as any in the South".

At present, 80 per cent of the students at Cullowhee are taking teacher training, and the school has won an enviable reputation in that field; it supplies 60 per cent of the teachers in 14 south-western mountain counties. It also offers four-year courses, however, in business administration and in liberal arts, and some professional work.

A faculty committee, Dr. Reid explained, is making a study of the question: "Which way from here?" He then turned the meeting over to Dr. W. A. Ashworth, chairman of that committee, who presided over the discussion.

Here are some of the suggestions offered:

Many young people in this area are not financially able to take a four-year college course, but they could finance vocational training (which they badly

need) for a year or less.

The college should continue to stress teacher training, rather than divide its interests and efforts and thus lower its standards. Teacher training is of vital importance because "the teacher makes the school".

W. C. T. C. should continue to strengthen its general teacher training work—"the teacher is the most important person in the community"—but it should also expand its home economics course from two to four years. Its home economics graduates are not now qualified as teachers of that subject.

A four-point long range program: (1) Change the name of the school to eliminate the word "teachers"; (2) expand subjects offered to include four-year courses in home economics, forestry, agriculture, engineering, and law; (3) make everyone in Western North Carolina familiar with the school's program; and (4) establish some college-operated enterprise that would enable worthy students without funds to earn their way.

Get individual citizens and business houses to help worthy students by offering scholarships.

Go into the fields that the industry of this area is centered around—crafts, home economics, forestry, etc.

Offer courses, with credit, in the field of religion. Establish and expand an extension program; since W. C. T. C. is, or should be, the intellectual and cultural center of the area, it should take what it has to offer "out to the people" of the region. Specific suggestions along this line: As a starter, night courses at Cullowhee for people in the outlying areas; make the library facilities more easily accessible to the people of the whole region.

Something Different

Up at Cullasaja the other night they did something different.

A number of Macon County schools this year have held benefit suppers—and they have proved highly successful, both as money-raising projects and as community gatherings. But at Cullasaja they held a supper that was not a benefit—there was no charge!

Under the leadership of Lacy Harper, P. T. A. president, and Principal Weaver Shope, the people of the school community got together for an evening of fellowship. The women of the P. T. A. pro- the work it does in order to best serve this West-laden when the supper was over, and after the meal the only formal program planned—the installation of P. T. A. officers—was postponed so the group could spend the time in group singing and in informal discussion of school and community affairs.

As Mr. Harper pointed out, when the teachers, the parents, and the children of a school community are brought together, community understanding and school progress are almost sure to follow.

It is a good sign when the people of a community get together like this; it is an even better one, when they decide—as they did at Cullasaja—to hold such an event annually.

Our American Civilization

Assuming that the biological is the one and only difference between men and women.

Everybody—from the U. S. Supreme Court on down—believing that complete and exact equality of opportunity is both possible and enforceable by law.

Applauding an inferior product, whether it's music or hominy grits, if it comes with a "big name" label; rejecting a highly superior product solely because it lacks a "big name" label.

Letters

A MACONITE IN EUROPE

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an excerpt from a letter from Miss Lois Latham, of Franklin (Buck Creek Ranch), who is with the U. S. army in Germany, engaged in teaching the children of army personnel stationed there.)

I am enjoying every day in Europe. I work quite hard at my job of teaching the army children. And I travel all I can and try to cultivate friendships with individual Europeans. I expect to go to Italy for my spring vacation next week, hoping to spend at least three days in Rome. I am looking forward to the Mozart Festival at Salzburg in August, too. I have enjoyed Vienna a great deal this winter. It is a gracious old city, built for all sorts of intellectual pleasures, with its concert halls, opera houses, theatres, university, and wonderful restaurants and gardens. I have heard good music there this winter.

I was glad to see your news stories and editorials on the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra. That is one N. C. institution which is very close to my heart.

★ Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.—Ps. 119:11.

THE SERENE, silent beauty of a holy life is the most powerful influence in the world, next to the might of the Spirit of God.—Pascal.

Help us, O God, to find spiritual enlightenment and nourishment in Thy Word to fortify our hearts against evil.

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

EDUCATION FOR LIVING

FOR THE SIMPLER LIFE IN THE EARLY DAYS OF OUR COUNTRY, SCHOOLING IN THE "THREE R's" MET THE NEEDS OF THE AVERAGE PERSON.



AS INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS HAVE GROWN, OUR SCHOOL SYSTEMS HAVE BEEN BROADENED TO MEET THE NEED OF VOCATIONAL TRAINING AS WELL.



TODAY, IN PREPARING OUR YOUNGSTERS FOR LIVING, OUR SCHOOLS, MORE AND MORE, ARE TRAINING THEM IN MONEY MANAGEMENT—TEACHING THEM THE FUNDAMENTALS OF SAVINGS, INVESTMENT, LIFE INSURANCE, HOME OWNERSHIP—AS WELL AS HOW TO BUDGET THEIR EARNINGS.

Others' Opinions

HARD TO FILL

Some day congress will create an office that has a lot of work to it, and they won't be able to find a politician to fill it. Chattanooga Hamilton County Herald.

BOTH BEHIND THE TIMES

Senator Kefauver says the Republicans are looking to the past. Quite so. And the Democrats are still running against Herbert Hoover.—Manchester (Tenn.) Times.

THE WAY OF JURORS

Is justice blind? Jury verdicts are generally a pretty accurate reflection of public sentiment, but they are not always determined by the evidence.

A Carthage man tells of a case in point. He said: "I was on a federal court jury in Rockingham a few years ago. It was late in the afternoon when we got the case. I was anxious to return home and it turned out that most of the others were of the same mind. We took a vote. Eleven of us voted the same way.

"Gentlemen," said the lone dissenter of the majority findings, 'I live in Rockingham and I'll stay here all week before I change my mind.'

"And I've got to get home," a juror moaned, 'My baby's sick.'

"My hay has got to be raked," said another.

"Let's vote again," one of the more optimistic of the eleven chirped.

"We took the second ballot. The verdict was unanimous. All eleven of us had changed over and the Rockingham man had his way."—Moore County News.

STRICTLY PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

On a trip to Asheville recently, I made definite plans to go to see a good friend of many years' standing. Retired, alone in the world, and in poor health, he must look forward, I knew, to the occasional visits of friends. Besides, I WANTED to see him.

But there were so many errands to do and my time was so short, I didn't get around to it.

"I'll go the very next time I am in Asheville", I promised myself.

Exactly a week later the morning paper carried the announcement of his death.

(I should have known better than to wait, because only a couple of years ago I had had a similar experience, for which I still was blaming myself. But in both instances I never could seem to find the time . . .)

I TOOK time to go to his funeral, but that was a poor substitute indeed—for him and for me—for a visit while he was alive.

After the funeral I was chatting with another friend. I had learned that his wife was near death, and expressed regret. He said:

"We have had a happy life together, and no matter what the circumstances, she has always been wonderful. But I

never seemed to find time for any real home life, for the companionship we both craved and enjoyed, for the little trips we had planned together. Now it is too late . . ."

If these experiences have any significance beyond their personal poignancy, it is that they are typical of what is happening to most of us today. Like automatons, mechanically driven, we rush hither and thither, faster and faster. We are so busy DOING things we rarely find the time to BE what we were designed to be—human beings!

There is something wrong with a civilization like that.

In some communities of Macon County—and of course in some sections elsewhere—people still find time to be good neighbors, to sit down and visit with their families and friends, to do the little, kindly, sympathetic acts that spell the difference between a robot existence and a really good LIFE. They sometimes may lack the mechanics of our modern so-called civilization, but they have something far more important.

Somehow, in these sections, people still find time to be human.

I hope they can keep it that way.

Business Making News

By BOB SLOAN.

A DIFFERENT THOUGHT  
Perhaps I should let sleeping dogs lie, but I just can't do it. Ever since the issue of Universal Military Training was raised this Spring there has been something I have wanted to say and two recent events just won't let me let it go unsaid any longer.

Many church leaders and ministers have opposed Universal Military Training on the grounds that it was an unhealthy influence on our youth. I believe that it is fair to judge something by the products turned out.

Never have I read of anything more inspirational than the conduct and words of Gen. James A. Van Fleet, a professional military man, since being notified that his only son was missing in action. His Easter message to the parents and wives who had lost their son or husband in Korea was the most inspirational of any that I heard or read on Easter. Gen. Van Fleet in asking those who had lost loved ones in Korea said, "We should all be proud, as The One so clearly stated so long ago, 'Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends'."

Today it seems that we are sorely lacking in moral leadership in our governmental offices of high position. With this in mind I would like to quote from an interview between a news correspondent and a presidential aspirant. The candidate had this to say concerning democracy:

"Democracy is indivisible from the idea that man is a child of God and as such sacred. Without this concept that man is a soul and a spiritual being the idea of human equality would never have come into this world. . . . Behind every ideology lies an assumption, an act of faith. That is why there never has been, and never can be a great or enduring civilization without a basis in religious principals."

To me it is markedly significant that a statement which so clearly ties together growth of our form of government as being based on religion came from the one man in the presidential race who is a military man—Dwight Eisenhower.

Could it be that the ideas of discipline and duty which are so strongly inculcated in those who undergo military training are among those which are most heeded to enable us to have Faith in these troubled

Continued On Page Three—

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Court commences here next week, Judge Fred Moore presiding. As Mr. Moore attended school, and studied law here, in fact, made this his home for a time, his many friends will be glad to see him.

Sam L. Kelly and party returned home Saturday from the Charleston exposition.

Henry Stewart, Jr., of Highlands, came down to the city Sunday on business.

25 YEARS AGO

The high school baseball team is getting ready to beat the socks off teams from neighboring towns.

Mr. L. C. Stepp, of Aquone, was a visitor to Franklin Thursday of last week on business.

Mr. J. W. Street, foreman in The Press composing room, took a short vacation last week and went fishing. It is just possible that there are still a few fish left in the streams.

10 YEARS AGO

On account of the rubber scarcity a reduction has been ordered in the production of suspenders and garters. This is going to cause the Administration to lose a lot of supporters. This and That, by Frankie

Miss Beulah M. Richardson and Miss Gertrude Swanson have returned to their home on Earpen Mountain after spending the winter in Mexico City. (Highlands).