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JULY 3, 1952

A Lift For Today

★ At their wit's end, they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and he bringeth them out of their distresses. Ps.—107:27, 28.

WHEN WE COME to a dead end, let us pray to God for guidance, and set to work to find a pathway out, remembering that deliverance by God involves cooperation by us also.

We thank Thee and praise Thee, Almighty God, for the assurance that Thou wilt gird us with strength that we may be able to stand in time of crisis and find deliverance through Thy power.

Mr. Shuford Wins

In this area's most important second primary contest, George A. Shuford won the Democratic nomination for congress by a substantial majority. More than that, virtually complete unofficial returns show that he carried every county in the district.

So far as is known, that has happened in a twelfth district congressional district primary election only once before—in 1940, when the late Zebulon Weaver carried every county.

Why Mr. Shuford won by such flattering proportions is a matter of opinion—opinion that probably would vary from individual to individual.

But whatever the explanation, the people have spoken—and the people usually are right.

Good citizens, whatever their primary preference may have been, will hope that they were right this time; will hope that Mr. Shuford, measuring up in responsibility to the honor implied by such a victory, will prove a good and great congressman; will hope that, in this critical period in the nation's history, he will recognize that his primary obligation is not merely to a single district, but to the nation as a whole.

What It's All About

Here's our suggestion for observance of the Fourth of July:

Go back and re-read the Declaration of Independence.

(You've never read it the first time? Well, then, this is a good time.)

Read (or re-read) it, and you'll find considerable in that old document to stir your admiration for the young dare-devils who wrote it. (We think of them as the "founding fathers", but most of them were young, and many of them dare-devils.)

You'll find a lot in it you had forgotten or never knew was there.

And you'll find a lot of things completely missing from it that some of today's extremists, both conservative and liberal, would lead you to believe are there.

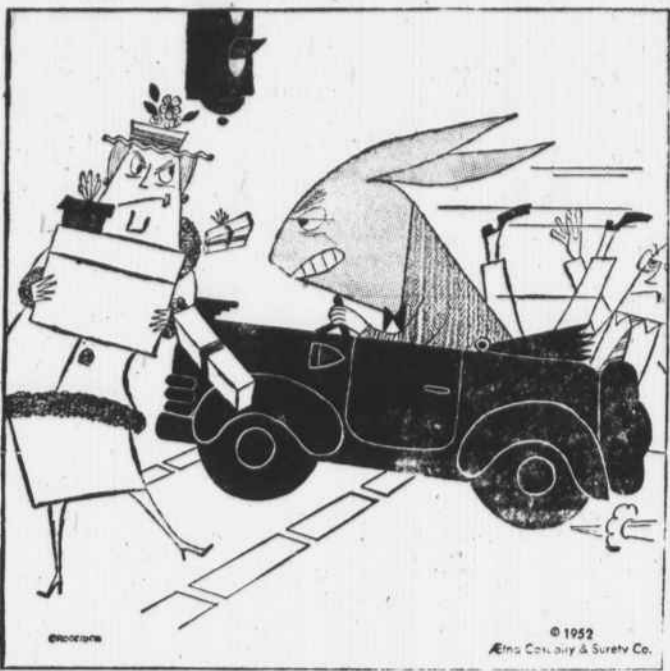
The Declaration of Independence!

That's what the Fourth of July is all about.

Might it not be a good idea, for once, to celebrate not just the day, but the event the day marks?

Next time you start to weep over the plight of the American Negro as weak and friendless, save your tears. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is the fifth biggest lobbying organization in the country. Figures compiled by Congressional Quarterly show that the NAACP spent more than a third of a million dollars last year in efforts to influence federal legislation.

WHO'S ZOO—ON THE HIGHWAY



DON'T BE A JACK RABBIT. Fast starts are bad for your car and worse for pedestrians.

Bouquet

Orchids to Franklin's Jaycees!

Their primary purpose in sponsoring last week's rodeo show here was to raise funds for their swimming pool project, and they made some money.

In striving for that worth-while end, they indirectly did the community another service—by bringing to Franklin a clean, first rate entertainment that gave pleasure to hundreds of children and adults.

All the evidence is that most of the people want Eisenhower and Kefauver as the Presidential nominees, but that most of the politicians don't. We'll see, when the conventions are held, which is more powerful, the wishes of the people or the designs of the politicians.

Our American Civilization

Assuming that because a thing is distinctively American it is therefore superior.

Calling everybody who disagrees with us names—radical, reactionary, communist, fascist, etc.

Permitting the mill owners, the labor union, the President, and members of congress to endanger this nation's safety, in order that they may make political capital of the steel strike.

LATE AFTERNOON IN THE SUMMER

(Morganton News-Herald)

Across the rises toward the hill country the quiet of late afternoon is broken by the cry of the early owl and the melancholic fading and lifting song of the whippoorwill. The last great rays of the sun carve shadows in the rolling clouds of the massive thunderhead moving in with powerful winds and lashing rain to replenish the moisture of the earth the heat of the day has evaporated.

A few moments more and the sound of the birds is lost in the crash of thunder high overhead and the light of the sun is dimmed in the sharp illumination of the first lightning.

Large drops leave rain prints in the dust on car tops and along the paths where youngsters have chased imaginary Indians through the day. The mighty swoop of the winds bends small trees to the ground and turns the leaves of the larger plants whiteside upward.

Another short breathing quiet and the distant off-key thunder breaks down in the side of the sky overhead. Housewives fasten down shutters and gather in their clothing from backyard lines while their menfolk tighten their car windows and cast anxious eyes upward at the awesome boiling spectacle above them and the children press inquisitive stares from behind the closed windows of the home.

The rain comes faster now, horizontal in the grip of the wind while the black shadows of the trees are briefly turned back to green in the yellow-white flickering of the unleashed electricity of the clouds.

The rain seeps under door sills and gushes down waterspouts to splatter in wavering rhythm against the ground and move in growing streams to join the network of streamlets across the yard. The streamlets join others and wash in miniature rivers along the curb carrying their cargo of leaves and paper left by the people during the day.

In great crescendo the thunder rips open the heavens and rolls down the sky to end in violent and fearful rumblings against the horizon. Then it fades and passes toward the east.

The rain continues for a short while, beating steadily now on the roof and against the windows. Then it slackens, the drops are smaller and fall straight down, no longer hurried by the rushing wind. The rain slows again and stops except for drops that linger as if a little late to join the great down-pour.

The mass of clouds lies to the East now and the skies begin to clear, unveiling the stars one by one. High overhead one

thunderclap starts uncertainly, moves without direction and ends in diminishing sound far away.

The summer storm is over.

Letters

A CHALLENGE TO FRANKLIN

Editor, The Press:

I have been very proud of the editorials in The Press, especially those on "Why I Like Macon County". It is really a great place to live.

I also saw something in this week (issue of June 19) I liked particularly. It was "Highlands Recreational Scheme".

As my home is in the Franklin area, I wonder what Franklin is going to do about it. It is a big step.

Perhaps if Franklin people asked themselves why all the young people go away from home, to work, in the service, and all the other places, they might see the answer.

In my opinion, for the past few years it was largely due to poor social and recreational opportunities in the area—other than outdoor sports, such as fishing and hiking.

Is Franklin going to clean up the recreational activities we now have, or outlaw them? I agree they could stand some straightening out. But in the navy we have plenty of pool rooms, and they are as clean as any of the many other sports we have. If people want to drink, they will always find a place to do it, even if the pool room—or any other place—is closed.

I seldom play pool, so this is not a personal matter. But I am certainly surprised at the way the Franklin people are trying to cope with this situation. Would it not harm as many people out of the city limits as it does inside? Or could it be they lack the social responsibility to look out for others than themselves?

Highlands is setting a wonderful example, providing recreation that will keep its young people happy and out of trouble. It will also be a milestone in the progress of the community, provided it is handled right; physically and morally.

Now what are WE going to do about it?

Sincerely yours,
GILBERT R. MASHBURN, S. N.

U. S. Naval Air Station,
San Diego, Calif.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

Plans for the construction of a new highway from Cowee Mountain Gap to Franklin recall the time when the present road was built, and the big celebration that marked its opening.

The formal opening occurred in 1926.

The event was marked by a big barbecue, attended by hundreds of people from this and adjoining counties, and by a number of celebrities. Among the latter, according to the memory of those who attended, were the late Frank Page, first chairman of the N. C. Highway Commission, the late J. G. (Jim) Stikeleather, of Asheville, district commissioner, and at least

one high official of the Georgia Highway commission.

The late Lee Barnard served as master of ceremonies—and made a big hit with the crowd, and an even bigger hit with the visiting dignitaries. Added to Mr. Barnard's inimitable style of oratory was his derby hat. Mr. Barnard, his acquaintances recall, stuck to his derby through thick and thin, and regardless of style. In 1926, the derby long since had gone out, but not with Mr. Barnard! And he not only wore it for this occasion; it was a part of his emcee equipment, he used it in his sweeping bows and in gestures of upraised arm.

Continued On Page Seven—

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

PLATFORMS and CANDIDATES



FROM ALL STATES IN THE UNION, MEN AFFILIATED WITH OUR TWO MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES WILL BE HEADING SHORTLY FOR CHICAGO FOR THE NOMINATING CONVENTIONS THAT ARE PART OF OUR ELECTORAL PROCESS. ALL AMERICA LOVES A BIG SHOW—AND THESE WILL BE BIG SHOWS.



BUT MORE IMPORTANT, OUT OF THE SHOUTING AND THE TUMULT, THERE WILL EMERGE THE CANDIDATES AND THE PLATFORMS ON WHICH THEY WILL GO BEFORE THE PEOPLE. THE ISSUES WILL BE JOINED. EVERY CITIZEN WILL HAVE FULL OPPORTUNITY TO FORM HIS OWN CONVICTIONS—AND A SOLEMN RESPONSIBILITY TO VOTE THOSE CONVICTIONS ON ELECTION DAY.

BE SURE TO VOTE THIS YEAR.

News Makings As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

Do we live in a democracy? I would say yes and no. The machinery is set up to allow us to live in a democracy but we don't use it. Untold numbers of speeches are made exclaiming the fact that the greatest and most priceless heritage we have here in this country is the right to vote as we see fit. Probably enough newsprint is used each year carrying articles which voice this same thought to supply a newspaper. With both the speeches and the articles I agree—and if you ask anyone else they too will agree—yet we don't vote. Last Saturday the Democratic party had an election to select their nominee for Congressional Representative. Despite the fact that this man will have a lot to say about affairs that effect our every day lives less than 50 per cent of the people who were eligible to vote took the time to vote.

They couldn't take 10 minutes to go express their opinion about the man who will supposedly speak for them on such matters as how much tax they will pay? whether or not the government should continue

—Continued on Page Seven

God's Choice For President

We propose a prayer plan for the selection of the next President of the United States.

Such a plan has absolutely no reference to any political party, or any group within any party, or to any individual of any party. The sole and sincere purpose is to receive Divine guidance in choosing the man whom God wants as the next leader of this great country.

The dangers facing our country and the world are so great that 1952's Presidential election cannot be taken lightly. Human wisdom at best is inadequate and full of error. We can make a tragic mistake if we decide this election solely on the basis of our own prejudices or viewpoints. But by sincerely seeking to do God's will in electing our President, we can be guided to God's man.

Our prayer plan merely asks each citizen to pray once every day a prayer of which the following is a suggestion:

"Almighty God, I humbly ask guidance that I, as a responsible citizen of the United States, may see and do my part in helping to choose the right man as our President. Help us to select the man who will follow

—Continued on Page Seven

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Capt. Wm. Berry, of the Tallulah Falls Railway, was in town from Wednesday to Friday. He reported everything satisfactory with regard to our railroad prospects.

A Tompkinsville girl said that her lover had a soft place in his heart for her because he claimed to be always thinking of her. She was mistaken. A man does not think with his heart. The soft place is in his head.

Mr. J. Jay Smith, of Highlands, was in town over Monday night.

25 YEARS AGO

Good for Franklin and Macon county! We had a very orderly Fourth, Chief Henry stating that it was not necessary to make an arrest.

Mr. J. S. Gray, of Smith's Bridge township, has evidently decided to go into the show business and as a starter has captured a six-foot king snake, which he was proudly exhibiting in Franklin last Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Shook, of Gastonia, formerly of Macon County, are here spending their vacation.

10 YEARS AGO

A magazine article reveals that we produce 3,000 tons of aspirin per year in the United States. Considering all the causes for headaches we have, it hardly seems enough. (Franklin Macon).

The U. S. O. hillbilly ball at Helen's barn on Thursday night netted \$150.96.

The Franklin All-Stars opened the last half of the Smoky Mountain League with a double win over Murphy Sunday 7-6 and 5-4, while Bryson City was doing the same thing to Kyle 7-6 and 6-3.