

# The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

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APRIL 8, 1954

## Makes Sense

The proposal of the Franklin Chamber of Commerce and the Macon County Highlanders to extend the tourist season makes sense. Good sense.

It is the simple truth that tourists visiting the mountains are cheated if they fail to see the mountains at their best—in the spring and in the fall. And surely, from our viewpoint, it is obvious that a tourist season that lasts only six or eight weeks means a hand-to-mouth existence for most of those whose livelihood depends on tourists.

In this day and age, though, we can't expect the folks who come the first of July to stay through October; today, people don't stay, anywhere. What we will have to do, if we are to lengthen our tourist season, is to go after one group in the spring, another in the summer, and still another in the fall.

Fortunately for us, the great number of elderly, retired people who are on the roads today eliminates the old problem about school. People with children of six or more can't come to the mountains until school is out in the spring, and can't stay after school opens in the fall. But the elderly, retired folk have no children of school age.

## No Grass

The Press is pleased to see that County Supt. Holland McSwain is letting no grass grow under his feet in trying to work out plans to replace the old Franklin school with a gymnasium. But here's hoping we do not stop with a gym.

Macon County needs an adequate auditorium in Franklin.

We repeat what was said in this column a fortnight ago: We can, if we will, turn the misfortune of the school fire into a blessing.

## Tail Wags Dog

"The world do move."

If you doubt it, consider this:

The Daily Tar Heel, University of North Carolina student newspaper, has been carrying on a crusade against "big-time" athletics at Chapel Hill. And the editor hasn't been lynched!

Whether a majority of the 5,500 U.N.C. students agree is, of course, unknown. But it is significant that, during the weeks and months the Tar Heel has been hammering on the issue, there has been no flood of opposition letters. It is reasonable to conclude that most of the students either do agree, or at least do not violently disagree.

There was a time when what has been happening at Chapel Hill this year simply could not have happened. There was a time, not so many years ago, when the student body, as a whole, demanded a winning football (or baseball or basketball) team, at any price—and would have permitted no person in responsible position on the campus to criticize that attitude.

Whether the Tar Heel crusade brings about a change, at this time, remains to be seen. But that the crusade could be waged is encouraging evidence that there is a growing skepticism about "big-time" college athletics—about making college athletics a business, operated like any other commercial business.

It's evidence that some people, at least, are beginning to wonder about letting the tail wag the dog.

## 'Subversive'

Who are the "subversives" we are hearing so much about today? What is a subversive?

Most people would agree that one who seeks to

overthrow the government by force is a "subversive".

But if that definition is correct, then George Washington, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, and a host of other Revolutionary heroes were "subversives" of the first water.

Wonder, if they were living today, if we'd stop short of hanging them?

A magazine article explains poisonous and non-poisonous snakes can be recognized by looking at their eyes. Yeah, but who's going to get THAT close?

## Others' Opinions

### THERE'S A DIFFERENCE

(Marshalltown (Iowa) Times-Republican)

When father is sick he expects the whole family to wait on him. When mother is under the weather she merely wants to be excused from waiting on all the rest of us.

### TOO MUCH TALK

(Fort Myers, Fla., News-Press)

Rastus: Ah want a divorce. Can't stand livin' wif dat woman nohow. She jus' talk, talk, talk night an' day.

Lawyer: What does she talk about?  
Rastus: She doan' say.

### LITTLE EVA UP-TO-DATE

(Raleigh News and Observer)

It turns out that the young women prisoners had not escaped after all from the Woman's Prison despite the mobilization to catch them of the Highway Patrol, police, prison officials—and bloodhounds. The two women, aged 18 and 21, were just hiding within the prison. The picture of the pursuit of an 18-year-old girl by bloodhounds remains, however. All that was needed to complete the picture was the girl trying to escape the pursuing and baying hounds across the river on the ice floes. Obviously the prison department is all out of ice floes.

### VIRGINIA AND NORTH CAROLINA

(Greensboro Daily News)

Looking across the border into Virginia, where the 1954 General Assembly has adjourned after an unusually turbulent session, the Daily News gets the idea that the Byrd organization took a licking and that we may be witnessing the end of a political era in the neighboring state.

Mind you, we say may be; not for a moment are we inclined to underestimate the force, the fight, the power and the resiliency of the regime which has so long controlled governmental affairs to our immediate north. It is recognized that several factors entered into the legislative squabble and the manner in which it terminated. The principals were divided in last year's presidential battle. The present governor certainly is not as strong as or possessed of the fighting qualities, the leadership traits, of many of Virginia's governors; and the complexion of the Old Dominion is changing. There have been indications of growing assault upon the Byrd machine and the realization that its power is not what it used to be. But against that background what happened in the legislature just adjourned may be all the more significant, all the more indicative of deep-seated political change.

The Virginia press is interpreting it in numerous ways, interpretations varying somewhat in accord with these differing segments' own political views, partisan affiliation and social concepts. The Roanoke Times, on the one hand, finds that the real issue, resolved in favor of the insurgents at least to the extent of a compromise which is something we've never noted before from the Byrd organization, "was whether those in control of the state government are to continue a policy which fails to take into account the essential needs of the people. It is whether the government is to be responsive to these vital requirements and adopt a program for dealing with them over a period of years in the order of their importance."

Over against that interpretation the Danville Register is sorely disturbed:

In Virginia there is a triangle of anti-organization strength exhibited in the localities and in the General Assembly. Each point of the triangle—Norfolk at one base, Southwest Virginia at the other and Arlington at the apex—provided its opposition to the Stanley program. They combined to make the session just closed the most controversial and the least constructive of any in years. In the atmosphere of wrangle little could be done. Little was done.

Governor Stanley may be able to reclaim the support of some of the younger members of the house, as he obviously is striving to do, but this same group must be watched lest they come back two years hence ready to abandon the first and foremost plank in the platforms of all recent governors—a sound fiscal program. Should that plank be abandoned, we might have a Truman Deal in Virginia and an ADA administration. That, we suggest, would be a political and economic calamity of the first water. We believe it can be averted.

These are questions which the Virginians must weigh and answer for themselves as they determine their government, the pattern it is to follow and the responsibilities it is to meet. For our part we confess we cannot see how a legislative session at which a tax refund formula was broken and more available money put into badly needed public services and functions can be labeled "the least constructive of any in years." Any leadership in North Carolina which held down or tried to hold down schools, mental institutions and other badly needed services in the way that they have been held down in Virginia by means or at the cost of such refund formula as the Byrd organization backed would last no longer than the next election, if that long.

## Letters

### SHE LIKES THE PRESS

Dear Editor:

The notice of date of expiration of our subscription for The Press is on hand. After our wonderful visit there last year through April and May with the many friends and relatives in and around Franklin, Oak Grove, and Bryson City there have been many items of interest to us in The Press. Some bits of news we would have had no other way and some special write-ups have been most interesting, especially the community groups and their work and the Christmas decorations as projects.

Enclosed you will find a check for \$3 to cover our subscription for another year.

My husband joins me in sending our best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

MRS. FRED F. BRADLEY

1165 Indian Hill  
Claremont, Calif.

### 'DO UNTO OTHERS'

Dear Editor:

I have just finished reading about the letter written to the Governor (The Press, April 1) on behalf of the tourists having to return to Superior Court to pay for violating the speed laws, which is being done every day by our own people of Macon County.

I suppose we don't have enough money to bother with, but I wish someone would write a letter concerning the labor shortage and how some people in Franklin don't want industries here, for fear of ruining the tourist season.

Is that the reason our men and women have to go to Michigan, Georgia, and South Carolina to seek work? because there isn't work for them here? and not enough pay for what work they can find to do?

If it happens to be that our people have to go elsewhere for a living I wonder then what tourists are going to find here. We don't have too much recreation for them. And only charge them double for what they eat and buy. We would blow our top if we had to pay the same in their towns or cities. Why can't we treat them equally?

This true saying should be Franklin's motto: "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

Sincerely,

MRS. FRANK GUFFEY

Route 4  
Franklin, N. C.

## Poetry

Editor  
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE  
Weaverville, North Carolina

### RECIPE FOR WORRY

Choose the gayest smile that you can spare  
And the brightest frock you have to wear.  
Seat yourself within a velvet chair  
Then tell the Lord your every care.

ELTA HANDTE-BLANCHARD

## STRICTLY

## PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

CHAPLAIN—"... different than . . ."

Of all the ignorant, ungrammatical, nonsensical expressions, to me that one is the worst.

It rubs me the wrong way. I suppose the reason it irritates me is it most often is used by those language snobs who laugh first and loudest at the incorrect language of the unlettered, who look longest down their noses at the good English phrase, "you all", and who even affect British pronunciations. In other words, a lot of the people who use it are those who should, and claim to, know their English. Yet they insist on saying something is different than something else.

Different than, indeed! It lacks dictionary sanction.

More important, it violates every rule of logic, as applied to grammar. Than is a conjunction, and a conjunction is used to connect, rather than separate. Different, an adjective, is followed not by a conjunction, but by a preposition; in this case, the preposition, "from."

Most important of all, neither a dictionary nor a knowledge of grammar is necessary to recognize that "different than" is a contradiction in terms; it just doesn't say anything. One man can be older than another, or taller than another. But how in the name of common sense can one man be different than another? You might just as well say that one man is different like another.

But the expression is spreading; you see it and hear it on every hand.

And if I don't watch myself I'll end this damnation of my

pet aversion by saying I'm determined to keep on being different than the folks who use it!

I guess my other pet aversion—but I feel mildly about this one, in comparison — is paper napkins.

I'm somewhat resigned to them, though; because I have to confess if I were the one who had to wash and iron them, there never would be another linen napkin used.

I have good, practical objections to paper napkins, but I wouldn't be surprised if my dislike is partly psychological, too.

The practical argument against paper napkins:

Spread out on your lap (as if any man had a lap!), they blow or fall off, get under your feet or somebody else's, and are hopelessly out of reach just at the moment they are needed most. If you try to avoid that's happening, by sitting on one corner of your napkin, you've torn it to shreds by the second or third time you use it. In desperation, I usually had mine up in a ball and wedge it under one leg. By the time the meal is over, the ball is so tiny it's about as useful for the purpose as would a lady's lace handkerchief be to an elephant—if an elephant ever tried to use a handkerchief. Finally, a paper napkin just doesn't do the job. When there's fried chicken on your mouth or fingers, using a little piece of flimsy paper is just going through the motions of napkinning. It reminds me of how ineffective was our old method of taking a bath—in a bowl.

But I suspect my dislike of

Continued On Page Three—

## News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

After attending the big Democratic meeting in Charlotte where Adlai Stevenson spoke to more than 2500 North Carolina Democrats I came away with the impression that this man is good for the country. He is certainly well fitted to lead the opposition.

An opposition leader should be an eloquent speaker. I have never heard more clear precise phraseology than came from this man with just the right word or phrase to fit each situation.

A sense of humor is another characteristic which is most helpful to a political leader, especially if his party is not in power. Adlai Stevenson loves a joke and when he tells one his whole self is in the telling and the joke seems to bubble out as the water coming from deep free flowing underground spring.

Most of all a spokesman for the opposition must have conviction. If for no other reason I am glad that I went to Charlotte because sitting within 20 feet of the speaker I felt the great conviction that I am now convinced that this man has. Neither radio nor television had conveyed the depth and fullness of the earnestness with which this man believes in what he is saying. Here is a man not speaking for votes but presenting a view in which he feels that many Americans join him. He may never be President, but he is certainly a big man with a clear quick mind, of whose thinking he speaks with sincerity.

I came away from the meeting in Charlotte also with the impression that Kerr Scott is in the lead in the Senate race. Both men were introduced to the assembly group and it seemed to me that the applause for Scott exceeded that for Lennon almost on a two to one basis. I am sure that an actual count of those applauding would have shown Scott ahead at least three to two. Since more than 2500 persons were there from all over North Carolina, I think this is somewhat indicative.

Another straw in the wind is a column by Kid Brewer, strong Lennon man, in which he says that the entrance of Wingfield into the Senate may produce a second primary, which is what the Lennon people are hoping for. People who feel like they will come out in front don't

Continued on Page Three—

## Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

DO U REMEMBER—ED P . . . 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK  
Caroline Dowdle, colored, said to have been 106 years old, died last Friday about 1 o'clock from a stroke of paralysis.

Perhaps not many of our people know that Charley Trotter of our town is in the state penitentiary, but he is. He is not there under sentence, but has a position as hospital steward.

Rev. Robt. P. Hawkins, of Clifton Forge, Va., is expected to arrive here about the first of May to take charge as pastor of the Presbyterian church.

Sol. McKinney, the portly and independent durmmer, has been in our burg since Sunday.

25 YEARS AGO  
Sooner or later Franklin will have to remove the trees on Main Street in order to widen the street eight feet. Traffic problems are already troublesome and during the summer months will become acute.

The building of the town hall was said to have been abandoned because the interest on the money would have been more than the rents the town is now paying.

Congratulations to Bonny Crest: After a fight of ten years the good people over there now seem to be assured of a street.

10 YEARS AGO  
Snow was on the mountain tops and in Highlands on Monday and Tuesday. Franklin experienced a few flurries as the mercury dropped to winter temperatures and stayed there until Thursday morning.

Plans are being made for an Easter sunrise service on Sunset Rocks again this year. (Highlands Highlights).