

The Franklin Press

The Highlands Maconian

SECOND SECTION

Franklin, N. C., Thursday, March 8, 1956

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At the
Court House
March 15
8 p. m.
Sponsored By
Upper Cartoogechaye
Community

Birthday Gift To Prisoner Modest Start Of Program

Out at the Macon County prison camp, a young man got some unexpected mail last week. It was a birthday remembrance from a man the prison inmate does not know, has never seen, and probably had never even heard of — until the gift arrived. The package was late. But that could hardly have been helped. Because the donor had never heard of the boy until the night of February 28; and the 28th was the boy's birthday. Thus the donor really was quite prompt, under the circumstances; because the package, addressed to the young man, went in the post office here bright and early on the morning of the 29th.

The mailing of that package was the first blow in a battle against loneliness and feeling of friendlessness among the youthful first offenders — aged 16 to 21 — at the camp. It is a project of the Macon County Methodist Men's Club, headed by R. S. Jones. Long discussed, it was launched in a modest way at last week's club meeting.

Impressed by prison authorities' report that many of the young men never receive any mail, and that some of them feel they haven't a friend in the outside world, members of the club decided to take one boy each, and serve as a sort of "big brother".

There are more than 80 men at the camp, far more than there are members of the club. So, as a starter, the club is restricting its personal activities to honor grade prisoners. As it turned out, when the names (with their birth dates) were distributed, there are more honor prisoners than club members were present, so some of the men took two names.

In addition to birthday remembrances, Easter mail is planned — maybe a small gift, maybe a letter, maybe just an Easter card; anything to let these youngsters

know somebody is thinking about them, and is interested in them. It was voted to keep the gifts — when gifts are sent — simple, inexpensive things, in the belief that being remembered will seem more important to these boys behind four' walls than the value of a gift.

The club also voted to work with the prison authorities in a counseling service; one man will sit down with a small group of prisoners and talk with them, about whatever appears to interest the group most. Four members, one to go to the camp each week during the next month, volunteered for this service. As the simplest way to provide reading matter for the prisoners, an effort is being made to arrange for bookmobile service for the prison.

A few of the young prisoners are interested in cartooning, and the superintendent, a cartoonist himself, is ready to teach the subject, but needs a book of basic instructions. The club will buy it. The project has been worked out, over a period of months, in close consultation with prison authorities, and club members feel what they have set out to do is only a beginning, a small beginning. But it's the kind of job that has to be done slowly; it's an experiment. They think, by feeling their way, it can and will grow.

Surviving, in addition to her daughter, Mrs. Edwards, are seven other daughters, Mrs. J. W. Beatty, of Highlands, Mrs. Marvin Beatty, of Abbeville, Mrs. Doyle Hudson, of Honea Path, S. C., Mrs. Jim Pursley, of Calhoun Falls, S. C., Mrs. Claude Chastain, of Gainesville, Ga., Mrs. Louis Busch, of Smyrna, Tenn., and Mrs. Walter Miller, of Salem, S. C., three sons, Wilbur, of Satulah, Ga., Jim, of Abbeville, and Leroy, of Mountain Rest, Route 1; two brothers, Jim and Lawrence Hicks, of Highlands; three sisters, Mrs. J. R. Owens, of Mountain Rest, and Mrs. L. B. Wilson and Mrs. Preston Neely, of Highlands; 50 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Seaman Cabe Ending Leave; Is Reporting For Overseas Duty

After a 14-day leave here with his family, Seaman Robert M. Cabe, communications technician, leaves today (Thursday) for Seattle, Wash., for assignment overseas with a U. S. Navy unit.

Son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude W. Cabe, of Otto, he was recently graduated from teleman school at the U. S. Navy Training Center in San Diego, Calif., and the com-

Mrs. Hedden Dies At Home Of Daughter

Mrs. Mary Hicks Hedden, 75, died February 25 at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Dan Edwards, in Highlands after a serious illness of two weeks.

Formerly of Mountain Rest, S. C., she had been in declining health for a long time.

Funeral services for Mrs. Hedden, widow of Ranson Hedden, were conducted on the 27th at 2 p. m. at the Double Springs Baptist Church in Mountain Rest by the church pastor, the Rev. L. H. Rainse. Burial was in the church cemetery.

A Baptist, she was born April 19, 1880, in the Pine Mountain section of Rabun County, Ga., a daughter of Samson and Mrs. Susan Smith Hicks.

Surviving, in addition to her daughter, Mrs. Edwards, are seven other daughters, Mrs. J. W. Beatty, of Highlands, Mrs. Marvin Beatty, of Abbeville, Mrs. Doyle Hudson, of Honea Path, S. C., Mrs. Jim Pursley, of Calhoun Falls, S. C., Mrs. Claude Chastain, of Gainesville, Ga., Mrs. Louis Busch, of Smyrna, Tenn., and Mrs. Walter Miller, of Salem, S. C., three sons, Wilbur, of Satulah, Ga., Jim, of Abbeville, and Leroy, of Mountain Rest, Route 1; two brothers, Jim and Lawrence Hicks, of Highlands; three sisters, Mrs. J. R. Owens, of Mountain Rest, and Mrs. L. B. Wilson and Mrs. Preston Neely, of Highlands; 50 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

communications technician school at Imperial Beach, Calif. Seaman Cabe is a '55 graduate of Franklin High School.



Brady's BLARNEY

By A Brady Called J. P.

It just doesn't pay to get "spittin' mad", and for that very reason I seldom do.

But, for a while last week I got "spittin' mad", departing from my usual happy-go-lucky manner. I just about stomped a mud hole in the concrete floor here at the office, to be honest about it.

The thing that upset me was a newspaper article (wouldn't you know it would have something to do with a newspaper?) appearing in the daily paper that serves this area.

In this article, the Asheville Chamber of Commerce took credit for the "Rubies for the Diggin'" article in this month's Woman's Day.

That's when I "flew mad" — "spittin' mad"; because for two long years I had worked to get that article on the Cowee Ruby Mines lined up for national promotion. For no reason other than to promote this home-town attraction and see if more visitors couldn't be induced to come here, I pleaded for the article through a friend of mine who writes for Woman's Day. In fact, I not only supplied what information I could, I sent the picture (which was published) of the Tennessee girl with the 25-carat rough ruby found at the Gibson Mine. And for once in my life, I had planned to stay in the background and not publically put my big proboscis (\$64 word for nose) into the limelight.

Then along comes the chamber of commerce to "steal my thunder". (Up went all my personal satisfaction — and my blood pressure.)

Down I sat at the typewriter. Out of it came a letter to a good friend of mine who works for the Asheville chamber. In the letter I staked my claim on the article.

Monday morning the telephone rang — long distance calling.

It was "Lou", calling from the chamber of commerce.

"... J. P., I had no idea you were working on the deal," she vowed, "we sent them a map and some information on minerals ..."

Of course, by this time I had just about forgotten I had been "spittin' mad".

Well, we talked it over (at the Asheville chamber's expense) and decided that maybe both of us were responsible for the article.

And then the whole moral of the episode came to light:

Wonderful Western North Carolina and its vast store of undeveloped attractions could be trumpeted to the ends of the world if individuals and organizations would cooperate with each other. Their motive is the same — to bring tourists to the area.

So I'm makin' a promise (and I've got a date with "Lou" to photograph some of the water falls around here for publicity purposes) to quit playing a lone hand in this promotion business.

jpb
"You're Never Far Away From Home-Department".

A couple of week-ends back, Banks Finger and yours truly were in Fayetteville. That's down where they've really got sand in their shoes. At a buffet banquet, we heaped our plates with some of the most delicious ham I've seen in years.

Glancing at the name-address cards on our lapels, the manager of the establishment observed:

"Franklin, huh? Why I got that ham you've got on your plates from Oscar Ledford. You fellows know him?"

jpb
Of the questions I'm asked daily, eight out of 10 will be:

"What's happened to Paul Swafford's column in The Press?"

Well, that's what I'd like to know. Mr. Swafford's sayin's were inserted in the paper as advertising and just as he was building up a following, he stopped sending it in.

If one more person asks what happened, I'm going out to his store and find out.

P. S. They're back this week.

jpb
A brush fire near Franklin High last Thursday sent volunteer firemen scrambling for the town hall and the fire buggy.

The first fireman on the scene was surprised to find the door to the fire house open, the truck motor running, and a stranger standing on the back of the truck.

"Let's go," invited the stranger. "Everything's ready".

Each fireman thought the

stranger was a friend of another human, so his presence wasn't questioned.

And to this day no one seems to know the identity of "Franklin's Phantom Fireman".

Do you?

Small Supply Of Seedlings

With the exception of four species, all seedlings produced for the '55-'56 planting season by the N. C. State Division of Forestry have been sold, according to County Ranger J. Fred Bryson.

At this time, he said only a small supply of Shortleaf Pine and Black Locust seedlings are available for use in this area.

Applications for these species may be made through Mr. Bryson or the county agent's office in Franklin.



Are you getting your fair share of the money you earn? Or do you pay everybody else... the butcher, the baker, the electric-light maker... and fail to keep a cut of your paycheck for yourself? Start now to make sure you do get your share... save before you spend. First thing every payday, deposit a part of your earnings with this bank... get the habit of saving regularly, and see how fast your money grows. Open a Savings Account with us, soon.

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