The Franklin Press Welfare And Stupidity

The Highlands Maconian

WEIMAR JONES Editorial Page Editor

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1959

NO. 1 NEED Might Get Both

When the combined choirs of the churches here presented Handel's "Messiah" at the Franklin Methodist Church ten days ago, every pew was filled, chairs placed in the aisles were all filled, and a hundred or more persons had to stand.

The very next night, at a P.-T. A. program, held in the Franklin School cafeteria, the experience was repeated; many had to stand throughout the program.

Lack of room, at two different type events, on successive nights, underlined a long-time need of this community-an adequate public auditorium.

Nowhere in Franklin is there a place suitable and large enough for a well-attended musical program, dramatic production, or even public speaking.

An auditorium, designed as an auditorium, that is large enough, seems to us the No. 1 building need of this community.

It's even worse needed than a new courthouse except for one thing: Fire-proof vault space for the public records stored at the courthouse is a must.

If we build a courthouse, we'll still need the auditorium; for a courtroom is neither suitable nor large enough for a public auditorium. Moreover, if we build a new courthouse, we'll have all our financial eggs in one basket. It's highly unlikely we can build a new courthouse and an audittorium.

That situation suggests a possible way of meeting both needs.

If a good architect finds it practicable to remodel the old courthouse, but finds there isn't space for all the county needs, why not use the remodeled building for court sessions, with ample vault space, and the offices of those officials whose records are most important, and then build an auditorium at another location, with space in that building for the offices of other public officials?

That way, we could take care of both needs and probably do it for approximately the cost of a new courthouse alone.

"Most people today wouldn't have such fat wallets", says The Chicago News, "if they removed the credit cards". Nor such fat under the wallets if they sat on 'em less.

Story Of The First Christmas

When welfare funds are allotted for the aid of dependent children, it would seem reasonable to assume that the money is meant to be spent for the welfare of the children. Yet some people in authority appear to feel that is of little consequence.

There is abundant evidence that many parents or guardians of dependent children draw these funds and then either spend them unwisely or squander the money on themselves, sometimes for such things as liquor.

In an effort to cure that situation, the last ses-sion of the North Carolina General Assembly enacted law giving county welfare departments authority to supervise the spending of these funds for children, in cases where the money appeared to be misused.

But the federal government, which provides the bulk of the money, said no. If there is any supervision, in any case, announced the federal Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, the federal share of these funds will be withheld from this state. North Carolina officials made a trip to Washington to explain the situation, but the department was firm. Either there'll be no supervision, the state officials were told, or there'll be no federal funds.

No matter how sound the sociological theory on which that decision was based-and we aren't sure it's even sound sociology-it doesn't make practical sense. Furthermore, it isn't just, for it tends to deprive some needy children of money set aside for their welfare.

We don't pretend to have either an explanation for the reasoning behind that decision nor a pat solution of the problem it creates.

North Carolina might, though, do something like Indiana did a number of years ago. That state, taking the attitude that welfare funds are public tax money, and that, therefore, the public is entitled to know who gets the money, made its welfare rolls public. The federal government promptly withdrew its share of the funds. Indiana stood firm. And, ultimately the federal government backed down.

This latest impasse, it seems to us, suggests too dangers:

First, if you give great power to non-elected officials, sometimes you'll get a fool in power, whom the people cannot reach directly.

Second, where there is federal aid, there is likely to be federal control-a control that is no less firm because it is used, as in this case, in a way that is obviously stupid.

Nearly every community in the Nation has a water prob-lem. Most problems of water shortage, poor water, or flood, trace back to the land—to the small watersheds on which rain or snow fails. Farmers and ranchers who control our farmlands, rangelands, and woodlands control to an important degree the movement of water that falls on their property. Public lands, including the National and State Forests, are equally important to the watersheds of which they are a part.-Agriculture Secretary Ezra Taft Benson,

Keeping Control Of Your Car

(Greeley, Colo., Booster) Best way to keep control of your car is to keep up the pay-

'Enrichment'

(Charlotte News)

at Lake Tahoe in California have n the care of 1 die blie

Is this what educators mean by "the enriched curriculum"?

Ice Cream And Savings

(Menio Park, Calif., Recorder)

chool savings account program at Encinal School has

the m age about thrift has finally through: It's because the ice cream freezer which be a recess-time Mecca has been taken out of service. eezer, says Vice Principal Raymond Criffichank, used operated by the student body and with the receipts a gream sales, students would make sundry purchases

ment of storage space made it impossible to con-

Now, the youngsters have nothing to do with their except to save it.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Looking Backward Through the Files of The Press



65 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK (1894)

Mr. and Mrs. J. Lee Barnard gave a sociable and supper at their home on Iotla last night.

Deputy Collector C. C. Smith came in on a visit home last Thursday to remain over Christmas.

J. A. Porter, of the grip brigade, came home Wednesday of last week and will remain till after Christmas.

Mrs. V. A. Redding, of Forsyth, Ga., a sister to Mrs. F. S. Johnston, arrived Saturday to spend the holidays with Mr. Johnston's family.

35 YEARS AGO

(1924)

Mrs. Elsie Franks, now teaching at Holly Springs, was a visitor to Franklin last Tuesday.

Clerk Frank I. Murray has been giving the old Confederate soldiers their pension money this week

Mr. W. J. Berry, of Holly Springs, killed a hog on the 16th that weighed 420 pounds, dressed.

15 YEARS AGO

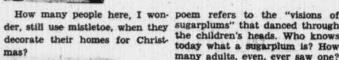
(1944)

Zickgraf Hardwood Company gave its sixth annual Christmas dinner to its personnel and employes at The Tavern Friday night, with 84 out of a total membership of 96 attending.

The Macon County Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the Army Air Forces, is being organized.

5 YEARS AGO (1954)

Old Man Winter arrived over the week end, handing out doses of ice and snow, the snow measuring from a half inch to ten inches



And how many of today's young And listen to this one: "Mamm. cople know the delicious secret in her kerchief and I in my cap' And listen to this one: "Mamma of mistletoe, when it's hung over- What man today wears, or eve head among the Christmas greens wore, a night cap? And what - that a girl caught under mistle- woman gets herself into a ker chief (I'm not positive whether es fair prey to any boy it's a headdress or a sort of dress to kiss?

(I still wonder, too, what I did at the time: How often the girls, And try to imagine, in this at the time: How often the girls, atomic age, anybody ever having atomic age, anybody ever having who seemed so surprised, really were unaware that mistletoe was thought of a sleigh, drawn by tiny reindeer, as the acme of iging above them?)

Well, if that old custom of decorating with mistietoe is gone. or going, most of the others re-main; most of them, happly, remain, in spite of all the changes thist have taken blat the the pro-And, for children in this area, what does the word "sleigh" mean? Most of them have seen that have taken place in the last century, or even the last decade. That's one of the wonderful things and ridden sleds; but a sleigh is at Christmas

How great the changes have been is well illustrated by the story, beloved by all children, in Macon County — well, who that starts "Twas the night be-fore Christmas". sleigh bell?

No child today ever saw a p

poem, is just a word to the child.

That poem is filled with words and phrases that, though they re-ferred to things that were in everyday use at the time it was written, have little or no mean-ing to the children of today. scape in rural America; his visits Yet "A Visit from St. Nicholas". were eagerly looked forward to by

written by Clement Clarke Moore the country housewife, who rarely for his own children, was first got to a store — and probably published in 1823, only 136 years found less variety in the store, ago. go. once she got there, than in the Even the title is a bit ana- humble peddler's pack.

chronistic today. "St. Nicholas" is rarely heard; to the modern dler. It would be my guess that child, the jolly old elf is "Santa that word, like so many in this Claus"

And you have to go no farther completely meaningless, as far as than the third line of the poem his personal experience is conto find a reference to something cerned. that is hardly used now: "the Still, "The Night Before Christ-stockings were hung . . .". Who mas", as most of us erroneously wears stockings any morel No call this poem, remains a favorite woman who even attempts to be with young children. They insist in style would be caught dead that it be read to them, over and in stockings the more instead over until they know it by heatt

in stockings; she wears, instead, over, until they know it by heart, sheer things called "hose". And without being conscious they are boys and girls, as well as men, memorizing. What a tribute that wear socks. I'd guess few families is to the author!

would have stocktings for the Though many of the words are children to hang unless they went out of date now. Clement Moore out and bought special ones made told a story that stirs the wonder for that purpose. of children - and that, it seems, Then, a little farther down, the never changes.

ONE VERSION

How Santa Claus Originated

PITTSBURGH PRESS

"Hundreds of years ago, after the birth of Christ and of the hundreds of years ago, after the birth of Christ and of the the lifetime of Jesus Christ, there three wise men who came to see lived a saintly little old man the Holy Child and gave him offer-named Nicholi Nicholas. He was ings of gold and beautiful presents so beloved by the people for his in celebration of His birth. acts of kindness that he became "Where Saint Nicholas lived it

nown as Saint Nicholas." was very, very cold. The people That's the beginning of a neat- were cave dwellers, and the enknown as Saint Nicholas.' ly-written story that appeared on trance to their cave homes was my desk a few days ago, wrapped through a hole in the top of the up in blue paper. It went on to cave called a 'chimney'. As the say that_

say that— "Every year, as the time ap-proached the date of the birth deer was their method of trans-of Christ Saint Micheles (1997) of Christ, Saint Nicholas went portation. among the people spreading good

"On Christmas Eve, Saint cheer, telling them the story of -Continued back page 1st Sec.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1959



STRICTLY PERSONAL By WEIMAR JONES

Good Tidings Of Great Joy: Unto Us A Child Is Born

AND there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: and the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord.

But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto, me that is to be ruler in Israel: whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

* * * THE angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee; named Nazareth, to a

virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, "Hail, thou that art highly favored, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.

And the angel said unto her, "Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favor with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: and he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

Then said Mary unto the angel, "How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

And the angel answered and said unto her, "The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall over-shadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the son of God. And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren. For with God nothing shall be impossible."

And Mary said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." And the angel departed from her.

* * *

NOW the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came to-gether, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save the people from their sins" . . . Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife: and knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

* * *

A ND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar

Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. . . . And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David), to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shown around about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them. "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger."

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

* * *

NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east; and are come to worship him."

When Herod the king had heard these things, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born. And they said unto him, "In Bethlehem of Judea: for thus it is written by the prophet, 'And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.''

Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, "Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When

From The Bible

they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceed ing great joy.

And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they de-parted into their own country another way. And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him."

When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt: and was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men. . .

But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life". And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, I and came into the land of Israel. . . . And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth.