

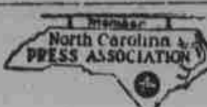
The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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BLACKBURN W. JOHNSON, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
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The press invites its readers to express their opinions through its columns and each week it plans to carry Letters to the Editor on its editorial page. This newspaper is independent in its policies and is glad to print both sides of any question. Letters to the Editor should be written legibly on only one side of the paper and should be of reasonable length. Of course, the editor reserves the right to reject letters which are too long or violate one's better sensibilities.

A Real Crisis

THE CRY of "Wolf! Wolf!" has been raised so many times in connection with the Tallulah Falls Railway that the folks served by this step-child of the Southern Railway have become somewhat skeptical that the rather frequent rumors and threats of abandonment would ever be carried out.

Now comes formal notice that J. F. Gray, Receiver, has taken definite steps seeking authority to discontinue service on the "T. F." and it looks as if it is more than a mere threat. With preferred stock of the Southern at 3 1/2 it is very evident that the parent company is having serious troubles of its own and cannot continue passing handouts to the "T. F." to meet its operating deficit. Furthermore, there is little or no hope of a short line railway like the "T. F." getting assistance from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, because guilt edge collateral is required for loans from that body.

The outlook is rather unpleasant. Buses and motor trucks have taken away from the railroads so much of the passenger and short haul freight business that the smaller rail lines, the "feeders," are being discarded at an alarming rate. Only within the last month or so the Southern has discontinued its branch line from Calderwood to Maryville, Tenn., once a link in the proposed trans-Appalachian line projected for the Tallulah Falls Railway via the bed of the Little Tennessee River.

What if the "T. F." is next? What would be the effect of its abandonment on Franklin and Macon County? The Press is hardly inclined to believe the result would be ruinous, but there is little doubt that it would be a severe blow, especially to the timber and mineral industries, upon which Macon County depends to a large extent for its income. It would be impracticable at prevailing prices in the timber markets to haul poles, cross ties and lumber from most sections of the county to Dillsboro or Nantahala Station on the Murphy Branch. Although timber operations have been considerably below normal during the past year or two, Macon has reaped a large part of its income from this source. Many families have depended on the occasional sale of cross ties or telephone poles for their cash income. Just now there are few, if any, poles and ties moving; but this business will pick up in time if there is a railroad over which to move them. The Press is informed that the "T. F." alone has bought \$5,000 worth of ties in Macon County since the first of the year. The poles which have been shipped out brought in considerably more. The loss of this business would be hard to make up, to say nothing of losses in lumber and minerals.

Then, too, abandonment of this railroad very likely would result in higher prices in Franklin for many bulky commodities shipped in from elsewhere, such as farming implements, building materials and coal.

The situation is serious. The business leaders of Franklin and every other town along the Tallulah Falls Railway should lose no time in taking whatever action is feasible to forestall abandonment of this line. If some means can be found to continue service over the "T. F." for another year, even though the service be drastically curtailed, general conditions might improve sufficiently to justify permanent operation. But if steam should be allowed to die in the engines and rust to eat into the tracks, it probably would be many a long year before another train ever came of Franklin. There has been much talk for a long, long time about the advantages of extending this railroad into Tennessee, with various whys and wherefores offered in explanation of why it has never been done. All this is besides the point just now. Unfortunately, this is a time of curtailment rather than expansion for railroads; new lines are not the order of the day. The problem that behoves Franklin now is to keep what she has.

Roosevelt as a Candidate

(Reprinted from The Chapel Hill Weekly.)

THE plain fact, which cannot be denied by any man capable of keeping his judgment unclouded by partisan zeal, is this: if Franklin D. Roosevelt is elected President in November it will be less due to any commanding ability of his own than to the country's resentment against the present Republican administration. Roosevelt's victory, if it comes, will be the direct result of the depression.

If prosperity had continued no Democratic candidate, not Roosevelt, or Al Smith, or Ritchie, or Baker, or Owen D. Young, would have had the ghost of a chance against Hoover this year. As it is, the general disposition to place upon the Republicans the responsibility for the economic disaster gives the Democrats a good chance.

With his characteristic frankness the late Dwight Morrow said: "We Republicans took the credit for prosperity, and we can't expect not to take the blame for the depression."

The question, whether or not the depression would have come if the Democrats had won in 1928, is academic. The Republicans elected their man and a majority of Congress, and seven months after Hoover had taken office the business structure collapsed. The promises of a chicken in every pot and two cars in the garage, and all the other fair promises, became a mockery.

Month after month Hoover and Mellon and other Republican leaders assured the public that the collapse was only a temporary setback, and that soon business would "turn the corner." Instead, the depression became deeper. Manufacturing plants closed down, throwing men and women out of employment; the prices of foodstuffs and other commodities fell; home owners, in town and country, were unable to meet the payments on their mortgages; thousands of banks crashed. Far from improving, commerce and industry and agriculture have gone from bad to worse, until now millions of people, who three years ago were living in comfort, are now actually upon the verge of starvation.

Is it any wonder, then, that the American people, from one end of the country to the other, are revolting the Republican party as a bungler, a wastrel, and a promise-breaker? There are economists of high standing who hold that the administration's policy of encouraging, or failing to discourage, inflation and speculation, and its tariff legislation, had much to do with causing the depression. We are not now discussing the correctness or incorrectness of this opinion; the depression may or may not have been inevitable, whichever party was in power. What we are saying is that the Republican party, because of its unfulfilled promises of continued prosperity and because of its failure to improve conditions after they had turned bad, stands before the people as a discredited prophet and an incompetent director of the nation's affairs.

This being so, unquestionably the Democratic candidate goes into the campaign with a tremendous advantage. For years, after the panic in Cleveland's second term was followed by the good times of the Spanish war era, a majority of the American people were taught to believe that Republican rule and prosperity went hand in hand. This belief has at last been shattered; the worst depression in the memory of living men has come with a Republican President in the White House and the Republicans in control of Congress. The natural result of this is that the average man is disposed to say: "The Republicans have failed us. They promised us good times and gave us hard times. Why should we keep them in power? A change could not make things any worse than they are now, and it might make them better."

Why is it that Franklin D. Roosevelt has been chosen as the Democratic standard bearer? It is not that he is the ablest man the party could put forward; few men who have known them both intimately, and who compare them dispassionately, consider that Roosevelt is the equal in intellectual power, or anywhere near the equal, of Newton D. Baker. One of the two main reasons why he has obtained the nomination is that he carried the state of New York in 1928, when Al Smith lost it, and that he carried it again in 1930. This made him what is called a "logical candidate," for Democratic success in New York is commonly regarded as essential to Democratic success in the nation. The second, and more important reason is that he lost no time in launching a campaign for the nomination and in perfecting an organization to place his name on Presidential primary ballots throughout the country and thereby to make sure that a large number of delegates would come to the convention instructed to vote for him. Thus he got a big lead. In the Presidential pri-

maries he had no opposition worthy of the name, except in a few states where Al Smith's influence was considerable, and the consequence was that he had a majority of the votes pledged to him before the convention opened. There were a few hours of excitement over the struggle for the remaining 90-odd votes required to make up the necessary two-thirds, but the really important work for Roosevelt had been done in advance. The opposition to him in the primary campaigns was so slight that he won the nomination almost by default.

Now, to say that Roosevelt is not the ablest man the Democrats could have put up is not to say that he is a weak candidate. We think he is a formidable candidate. His record of victory in New York has created about him an aura of success. He is friendly and likeable; he is vigorous, despite his physical infirmity; and his advocacy of so-called "liberal" and "progressive" policies—his talk of the "forgotten man" and of the iniquities of big business—qualifies him to reap the full benefit of the nation-wide dissatisfaction with the present Republican administration. And, unmistakably, he is a gifted politician.

He has a rare gift for dramatizing himself and his cause. An evidence of this gift was his airplane trip from Albany to Chicago to appear before the convention and sound the battle-cry in the presence of the men and women who had chosen him as the party's champion. Never did a campaign get off to a better start.

The opinion of many commentators, and it seems to us a sound one, is that his appeal is strongest to the South and the West, to what is commonly described as the agrarian element. "His nomination," says the Greensboro News, "indicates that Democratic leaders pin their hopes for victory upon the South and the West, the appeal being primarily to 'the little man' instead of the seats of big business and those who occupy them. The progressive planks of the party's platform offer a consistent footing for the personal views of the candidate. They constitute a patent bid for the agrarian, the workers—farm, industrial, and white-collar—vote. The solid support of the Southern and Western states will give the Democratic nominee a substantial bloc of 283 votes in the electoral college. If the scramble for the Central and Eastern states results in any material addition to the Roosevelt total, the election will have been won."

On the day the Democratic convention assembled Walter Lippmann wrote: "If Roosevelt is nominated the battle will be fought on the pattern of the McKinley-Bryan contest of 1896. Along the lines they have decided to pursue the Roosevelt leaders are prepared to lose the Al Smith vote in the great cities, to lose the support of many conservative Democrats, and to send back to the Republicans those business men who would, if they had the chance, like to vote against Mr. Hoover. They are counting on general discontent, especially in the rural sections, to overcome that spirit of caution born of anxiety which is the main reliance of the Republicans."

But there is one vast difference, between the 1896 and 1932 situations, of which Mr. Lippmann appears to take no account. In 1896 the country was in a depression that had come during a Democratic administration; in 1932 it is in a depression that came during a Republican administration. In 1896 the Republicans were beneficiaries of dissatisfaction with the party in power; in 1932 it is the Democrats who stand to benefit from such dissatisfaction.

And then there is a question that did not exist in 1896—national prohibition. "Repeal has been the insistent demand of the East"—again we quote the Greensboro News—"and it is highly probable that some of the Eastern states, despite a strong dislike for the Democratic candidate, will give their support to the ticket because of its anti-Prohibition platform."

Anybody who reads the newspapers in the East is impressed by the bitter disappointment, on the part of great numbers of Republicans, with the Republican straddle on prohibition. A case in point is the denunciation of it by Nicholas Murray Butler. And it is no secret that some of the men who have contributed most liberally to the Republican campaign chest in the past have determined, because of the party platform's weasel words on the 18th Amendment, to keep their purse-strings tight this year.

Here, then, we have the two dominant factors in the political situation—the depression and Prohibition—working in favor of the Democrats. These are far more important than the candidate's intellectual power. With a good character and respectable ability—

Supreme Moments of Life.

BY PERCY CROSBY



When your stolen dog returns just as you had given up all hope of ever seeing him again.

and Roosevelt certainly has these —any Democratic candidate this year is a formidable candidate.

Clippings

THE 'PORK BARREL'

President Hoover speaks with truth, but with poor grace, when he characterizes Speaker Garner's relief measure as a "pork barrel." Mr. Hoover himself has been most active in this line of enterprise and his record during the last three years has been filled with handouts of the pork-barrel variety. Mr. Garner has cited the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and he could have continued by mentioning the Hawley-Smoot tariff, the farm-relief program, the Shipping Board subsidies, and dozens of minor ventures into the realm of soliciting votes with special favors.—ASBURY PARK EVENING PRESS.

THE RURAL BILLION

Declaring that at least half of the earth's two billion population are dependent on agriculture for a living and that the history of the next century or two will revolve around the strivings of these multitudes, "representing a promise as well as an appeal to society," Kenyon L. Butterfield, a speaker at the Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Virginia, summed up what is in fact a key problem of modern times.

"Mass production of modern industry must have great markets," said Mr. Butterfield. "These rural masses have been meager consumers. If their income could be increased only \$10 per year per capita the total demand would constitute an enormous outlet for manufactured products. As a matter of fact, it is largely among these hundreds of millions of people throughout the world, who live close to the economic margin, that the future success of large scale industry depends."

Industrialism prospered during its first century because the population of the world increased enormously during that period and it found its outlet in this increasing population. But that situation could not go on indefinitely. Industrialism has been built up in no small measure at the expense of agriculture. This was true in the United States. It has been true, as the article which we quoted yesterday from the Wall Street Journal showed, in Japan. The problem now is to establish a balance between agriculture and industry. The necessities of the rural billion will no longer be denied.—THE ASHVILLE CITIZEN.

TOO PARTISAN

When a man launches an active campaign for or against any important public measure or question it is mighty hard not to be one-sided beyond all reason. For instance, rabid dries go so far as to condone those "bone dry" regulations which would deny that spoonful of whiskey which doctors might pronounce necessary for the patient's life. And rabid wets go to the extreme of exulting in violation of law, even when attended

with fatal consequences. It adds to the statistics they like to cite against prohibition, x x x Where there is too much partisanship there is an abandonment of reason. If the prohibition problem is ever really solved it will be done by those persons who have remained sane and cool.—THE PATHFINDER.

A little girl going to church for the first time saw the people in the attitude of prayer. "What are they doing, mummy?" "Hush, darling, they are saying their prayers." "What," cried the child, "wiv all their clothes on!"—NORTH CAROLINA CHRISTIAN ADVOCATE.

Did You Ever Stop To Think?

BY EDSON R. WAITE,
Shawnee, Oklahoma

A. C. BUSS, Publisher of The St. Marys (Ohio) Leader, says: That the people of a community that is sold on advertising usually have something worthwhile to exploit. They are not backward in letting others know about it. If there is anything good to be shared, they are willing to share it with others. They let their light so shine that their neighbors about them may join in the benefits accruing therefrom. Considered in this way, advertising has an unselfish and altruistic purpose.

It stimulates trade and a stimulated trade is a blessing. It steps up circulation, the life-giving property to all well regulated systems of motivation. It is a doctor's prescription to keep the body healthy, so that the greatest efficiency might accede to the tasks undertaken.

Anything worth doing at all is worth doing well, and the greater the efforts toward careful and methodical methods at sustaining the functional order of trade, the better will all fare. Inertia is disintegration and disintegration is death. The push required for the uplift of a prostrate form is an injection of virility that will set the organs of life to natural office. A hypodermic injection of serum to help supply the sinews of resistance will help a lot. That serum is advertising.

When the gates of barter and trade are ajar, affording a ready exchange of merchandise at prices consistent with the times, results are far greater, even if returns are less, than if they were closed. Advertising keeps these gates ajar, beckoning all who enter into fields of action and life. To keep business active is tantamount to preserving the potentiality for endless possibilities. When business is performing in a natural way, all outlying dependencies are in harmony with it. We are linked together in a great teeming cosmos of interrelationship. The one cannot thrive without the other thriving with him. Business is dependent on the free interchange of commodity. We would never get anywhere by isolating ourselves from everyone else.

The agency contributing to the happy condition of mutuality of consideration is performing a mission untainted by selfishness or greed and is ever watchful at the cross-roads of public weal. That agency is ADVERTISING!

IN APPRECIATION

To The Franklin Press:
We the Methodist class of Clear Creek, do thank Mr. W. S. Davis of Highlands for the present of a large nice Bible. We do heartily thank him for it, and do trust that we may be blessed in reading it.
Mrs. E. P. Picklesimer,
Highlands, N. C.,
July 4, 1932.

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENTS

NOTICE OF SALE

North Carolina,
Macon County.
WHEREAS, power of sale was vested in the undersigned Trustee by deed of trust executed by Walt Prater and wife, Avia Love Prater, dated March 15, 1930, and Registered in the office of the Register of Deeds from Macon County in Book No. 1 of Building and Loan Records, page 110, to secure the payment of One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars payable to the Macon County Building and Loan Association; and whereas, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured thereby, and the holders of the same having demanded the undersigned trustee to exercise the power of sale in him vested;

I will, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale by said deed of trust in me vested on Monday the 15th day of August, 1932, at 12.00 o'clock noon sell at the courthouse door in Franklin, North Carolina, at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following described property:

Adjoining the lands of George Guest, Clint Ledford, Charlie Love and others, bounded as follows, to-wit:

Beginning on a stake in George Guest's line, runs NE with Guest's line, 100 feet to Clint Ledford's Corner; then North with Clint Ledford's line 210 ft. to a stake, Clint Ledford's and Walt Prater's corner; then West 100 feet to a stake; then SW to the beginning, containing 1-2 acre, more or less. This 13th day of July, 1932.
R. S. JONES, Trustee.
J14-4tc-B&L-A4.

TALLULAH FALLS RAILWAY COMPANY J. F. Gray, Receiver NOTICE

This is to notify all parties interested that the Receiver of the Tallulah Falls Railway Company has filed in the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Georgia an application for authority to apply to the Interstate Commerce Commission for permission to cease operations of said Railway. The hearing on this application will be had before the U. S. District Judge at Gainesville, Georgia, on July 22, 1932.
J. F. GRAY, Receiver.