

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

Published every Thursday by The Franklin Press
At Franklin, North Carolina
Telephone No. 24

VOL. L Number 41
BLACKBURN W. JOHNSON.....EDITOR AND PUBLISHER

Entered at the Post Office, Franklin, N. C., as second class matter
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
One Year \$1.50
Six Months75
Eight Months \$1.00
Single Copy05

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The League Comes To Life

THE League of Nations, in boldly placing the stigma of war guilt on Italy, has proved itself something more than a postgraduate school of international relations. How far it will be successful in persuading its member nations to carry out economic sanctions, or penalties, against the offending nation remains to be seen; but the very fact that the League at last has gone so far as to lay the blame and to invoke punitive measures is an encouraging sign.

What effect the League's action will have on the Italo-Ethiopian situation is still in doubt. Mussolini has gone too far to retreat gracefully, and there is little likelihood that little Emperor Haile Selassie, supported by world public opinion as indicated in the League's report, would consider concessions to the invader without a battle to the finish. One thing certain, hope of peace is daily diminishing.

Ethiopia's hope of defeating the invaders, as the situation now exists, depends chiefly on two factors—the ruggedness of the country itself and the effectiveness of the sanctions yet to be specified by the League. The big trouble is that Italy may have won the war before the League can make sanctions operative. Even after the exact form of the sanctions has been decided upon the League must persuade its member nations—54 of them—to put them into force. It is not mandatory upon League members to do this. So, there you are! It would appear that Ethiopia's best hope lies in her mountainous terrain, where tanks, airplanes and other modern implements of war are of little use. Ethiopia could hardly beat the Italian forces, but it might wear them out, or stave off a fight to the finish until the next rainy season comes along to dampen Mussolini's hopes.

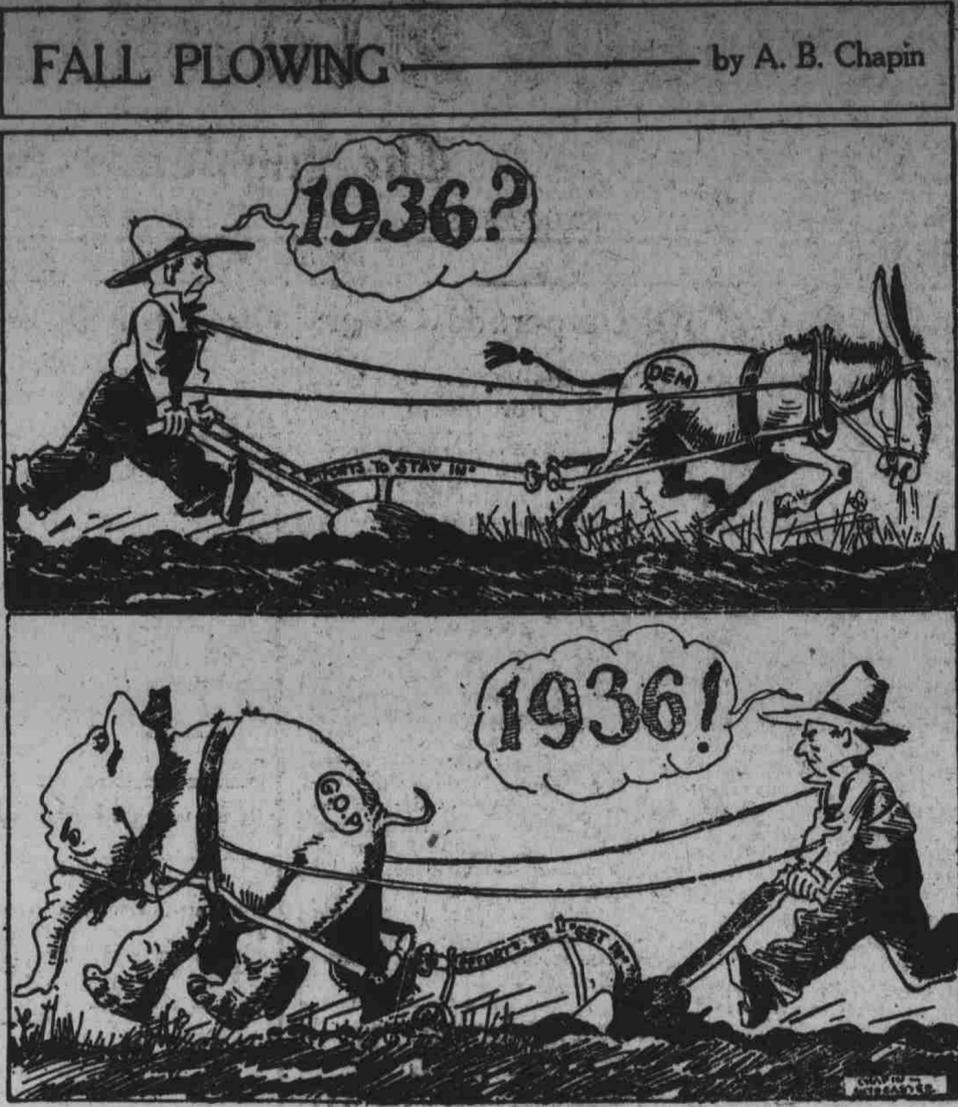
But, be that as it may; the League of Nations has actually begun to function. It has thrown off the cloak of lethargy and come to life. The very fact that it has placed the responsibility for a war of aggression upon Italy will be of great moral weight. Doubtless, Mussolini would have been a little more hesitant about his African venture had he foreseen such action at Geneva. And, too, other nations in the future will be more likely to take the League into account.

The Story of the
Constitution
by CALEB JOHNSON

XIII. EXPANDING NATIONAL POWERS

While the war between the states was in progress, almost dictatorial powers had been exercised by the Executive. The President, under the Constitution, was Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, and the whole nation was involved in the war. Many things were done under the stress of the war emergencies for which there was no specific warrant in the Constitution. Among these, for example, was the imposition of a national income tax. This, like the other war emergency measures, was abandoned at the close of hostilities. After the turmoil of the Reconstruction period had subsided, there was general satisfaction with the demonstration that had been given of the flexibility of the Constitution. It had been stretched to cover the emergencies of war and reconstruction; now it had shrunk back to its peace-time functions.

But those functions had become far greater than they were, and were to keep on expanding. A new spirit of nationalism had taken possession of the Government, and in the 20 years from 1879 to 1898 Congress and the Executive, sometimes together and sometimes in opposition to each other, undertook to enlarge Federal powers while the powers of the states were constantly being diminished. The whole social and economic picture of the nation began, in the 1870's, to change from a system based almost exclusively on agriculture, forestry and mining, to one based primarily on industry. Revolutionary new inventions began to appear. Lines of communications multiplied, the great industrial centers began to develop and their products to be distributed throughout the nation. For the first time the United States began to be an exporter of manufactured



goods as well as of agricultural raw products.

Just as new ideas of Government had been developed by the pioneer settlers on the Atlantic Coast in colonial days, so new ideas of the relation of the government to the people began to develop in the pioneer West. As the population of the newly created states grew, their influence in national affairs naturally increased. Before long, pressure from the agricultural West induced the Federal Government to assume authority to regulate railroad communications between the states. There was serious doubt of the Constitutionality of the interstate commerce act, in the minds of many, but the Supreme Court upheld it as coming within the purview of the commerce clause of the Constitution.

But when, in 1893, Congress undertook to enact a new income tax law, the Court held it to be unconstitutional. The West, however, was insistent upon an income tax, and after 20 years of agitation the sixteenth amendment to the Constitution, authorizing Congress to impose a tax, was submitted and ratified in 1913.

Out of the agrarian West also came demands which gradually became irresistible, for other changes in the Constitution.

The Spanish war of 1898 put the finishing touch to the antagonisms between North and South and launched the United States upon a broader nationalistic career. So completely dominant was Federal supremacy that President Theodore Roosevelt, in 1906, did not hesitate to advance the idea that state lines should be wiped out.

The power and authority of the Federal Government spread in directions and to distances which the framers of the Constitution could never have foreseen. We annexed Hawaii under President Cleveland. We took possession of the Philippine Islands, 7,000 miles away across the Pacific, and of Porto Rico; almost at the end of the Civil War we had purchased Alaska from Russia and under the leadership of Theodore Roosevelt we embarked upon the gigantic enterprise of the Panama Canal. Probably not one of the men who sat in the convention of 1787 would have called this imperialistic expansion constitutional, but under the clauses authorizing Congress to regulate commerce with foreign nations and between the states and to provide for the common defense and the general welfare, the Supreme Court held that the documentary basic law of the land was sufficiently flexible to warrant these acts.

(Next week: The West Initiates More Amendments)

From the Files of THE PRESS

TEN YEARS AGO

Last outlet on the dam closed.
Deputy Sheriff B. C. Munday was recovering from wounds.
Thieves looted the Joines Motor and Tractor company store.
Construction company finished pouring concrete to the foot of the Dillsboro road.
Unknown friend donated \$1,000 to Maxwell school.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

J. E. Rideout and W. W. Smith, Highlands, spent the day in Franklin.
Twenty-five men and boys chastised for loafing during the church hour.
Attorney J. Frank Ray attended the Webster court.
Mrs. J. P. Jarrett, Dillsboro, visited her daughter, Mrs. Will Cunningham.

Muse's Corner

(EDITOR'S NOTE—Memories of the South, especially of her home county of Macon, stirred Florence Brown (Mrs. J. R. Brown), of Junction City, Calif., to write the interesting verses below. Accompanying the manuscript was a letter, stating: "Altho' it's been 33 years since I was there, I hope you can find a corner somewhere in the paper for the enclosed poem, which I send as a greeting to my old friends and loved ones who may be left to read it. Kindly return it; I am only loaning it to you, as it will soon appear in a Southern magazine; but I reserved the right to submit it to my home town paper." The editor wishes to acknowledge with sincere appreciation this contribution from Mrs. Brown and hopes that others will be forthcoming from her.)

Just Reminiscing

In Dixie's Land where I was born,
Full many years have bloomed and gone;
'Twas there the fields of yellow corn
I hoed. Sometimes I stole down on
The river's bank and there I played.
The sycamore and boxwood shade
Quite cooled the sand where small
toes strayed.

In the bateau I loved to row
Across to see my neighbors' fields
That kissed the water's lips. I know
Those friends were tried and true.

Their yields
Of friendliness was sweeter, too,
Than fragrance from a garden's dew
Of loveliness. My child heart knew!

The ones I loved and hold so dear
Are drifting outward one by one,
So few remain to shed a tear,
But none has left a job undone.
I close my eyes to linger long
In dear child days and to prolong
The old sweet tunes of Mother's song.

—Florence Brown.

P. O. Box 3,
Junction City, Cal.

(Edwin Cunningham, who submitted the verses below, was born and reared in Franklin, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Cunningham. He now lives in Atlanta, Ga.)

Fragment

All are but dreamers in this world
of woe;
But out of dreams realities grow;
Buildings, empires rise and fall
And leave but echoes in Time's
great hall;
Built and crushed by dreams.

—Edwin Cunningham.

Dormir

If I die tomorrow, the world goes
rocking on.
If I die tonight, the birds will sing
at dawn.
If I die even now, who'll care that
I am gone?
The world will rock and come to
dock
Safely without me
And its sails will fly
As my soul flies by,
Safe—on life's sea.

—Edwin Cunningham.

EXPAND EXTENSION FORESTRY PROGRAM

With the appointment of Rufus H. Page, Jr., as assistant extension forester at State College, the forestry program is being expanded to meet the growing demand for forestry information.

R. W. Graeber, extension forester, said, "We expect to set up a more complete market information service as quickly as the data from mills and other wood-using industries can be gathered.

"We shall offer farmers more help in estimating the volume and value of their marketable timber, and will cooperate with farmers and sawmill operators in adopting better methods of harvesting the trees so as to insure a continuous crop of growing timber.

"Our program of forest planting and timber thinning will be increased. We will assist with the TVA demonstration farms in the 15 mountain counties of this State where the TVA program is being carried on.