

# The Franklin Press

and

# The Highlands Maconian

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### Will War Touch Us?

WE don't believe that there is much chance of the United States being seriously affected by the war between Italy and Ethiopia. There is no such emotional reaction, so far as we can see, as there was in the beginnings of the Great War, when everybody in America was taking sides vehemently.

If the expected war is confined to a conflict between the Italians and the Ethiopians, it is difficult to see how any American interests would be seriously imperiled. All the trade that we have with Ethiopia you could put in your hat. Our exports to Italy have been steadily declining for years and there is no occasion to worry about them.

The real possible danger to the United States would be another general European war. That is not outside the realm of possibility. It may not come as a direct result of the present exchange of belligerent gestures between Italy and Great Britain, but all of the folk who make a study of international relations seem to think that, sooner or later, some incident will set off the fireworks and involve all of the Great Powers in another catastrophic conflict.

The thing that brought us into the last war was the assumption by the belligerent powers of the right to dictate to us where our ships might and might not navigate the free seas, an assumption which culminated in Germany's declaration of unrestricted submarine warfare. It is conceivable that a situation might develop in which the free passage of American commerce through the Mediterranean and the Suez Canal would be threatened or prohibited by some other nation. It would not take very many incidents, such as the deliberate sinking of American ships, to stir the American people to the point of going to war again.

We hope nothing of the sort will happen. We do not think it is likely to happen. But we must not lose sight of the fact that no nation can remain completely isolated from all the other nations of the world, and that anything which upsets the international situation may easily affect us too.—Selected.

## LETTER-PRESS

### AN APPEAL FOR COOPERATION

Editor:  
Will you give me space in your paper to tell people of Macon county a little about a persuasive good-will work we are doing in Rabun county and others, with such gratifying results, that we are extending it.

It was started near twelve years ago in Rabun county by the best citizens, myself excepted, with intentions of prosecuting if it took that to check violations of law. The existence of the organization checked it over night. We covered the county with good-will mass meetings in six months. The judge, J. B. Jones, praised the work in his charge, said he had recommended it to other counties in his district. We built sentiment that made it easy to raise \$150 by private donations for a first payment on a car for our sheriff.

We thought we had done all there was for us at that time and quit. We returned to it soon and kept it up at intervals ever since. Knowing its value from experience is why we are spreading it. We have never had to prosecute a single case.

I have written a book explaining the objectives and plans of the work. In it we state that we positively do not prosecute anyone

as an organization but we want the world to know we are doing our dead level best to build such sentiment as will cause it to be done by the individual citizens in the regular and legally arranged way. That we are with the officers to see that they do their duty and to help them do it. That we are behind the courts to help them function as they are intended to do, but above all that we are behind and with the church to help it function as God wills it should.

The objectives of the Moral Welfare League are identical with those of the church with the additions that we go further in governmental teachings than it does.

We believe that forced submissions to law is not obedience and makes enemies but that intelligent, self-willed submission is real obedience and makes friends to law and government.

We do not believe that more than one in fifty is made a better citizen by serving a sentence. We do not believe that real and enduring sobriety and obedience to law will ever be obtained until it springs up from the heart and will of the citizens as freely and spontaneously as water from the ground; and that the number of such citizens must be a potential majority.

We know of no better way to

bring about this state in the citizenry than to reach their heart and will with pleasing descriptions of the beauty, and benefits of the principles of the gospel. This is what we are endeavoring to do. If anyone can think out a better plan we, with joy, would accept and adopt it.

In this way we hope to build sentiment that will dominate; knowing that public sentiment dominates the home, the social order and government and the church itself. To build this sentiment we use the league book, group meetings which the book tells how to hold, conducted as a Sunday school lesson is discussed by the whole congregation, mass meetings, libraries, and religious shows. See advertisement of one elsewhere in this paper.

When the league book is printed we will organize Moral Welfare Leagues in every community in every county around desiring them but only where they are wanted. We do not force, we do not coerce, we persuade. We try to hold up to the mind and heart of the child and youth a picture of a real sure-enough home, teaching them the one essential to that home is a real, sure-enough, God-linked marriage. We hope by this to suppress the divorce tragedy.

Men and women who have faith in God won't you help us freely and whole-heartedly?

We want to make these explanations to the people of the counties around so that when we come to you to do our work we will not have to lose so much time running around to see Tom, Dick and Harry about a house.

We pay for heat, lights and help where churches and schools will take it but so far all have given every thing, seeming to feel that

the moral effect of the work was worth all and more.

George W. Seay.

Clayton, Ga.  
October 14, 1935.

## From the Files of THE PRESS

### TEN YEARS AGO

League of Women Voters sponsored a citizenship institute.

Palmer street extended from the Franklin Furniture company store to the Georgia road.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Porter and Steve Porter attended the Methodist conference at Statesville.

S. H. Lyle, G. A. and R. S. Jones, and Sam L. Franks organized a real estate firm.

### THIRTY YEARS AGO

Gus Leach, of Lake Toxaway, visited relatives in Franklin last week.

Post office at Leeds discontinued. State Library donated a set of "The Colonial Histories" and "North Carolina Regimental Histories" to the library.

### Avon Players To Present 'Othello' at Rabun Gap

Shakespeare's "Othello" will be presented by the Avon Players of New York in the auditorium of the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School at Rabun Gap, Ga., at 8 o'clock in the evening of Wednesday, October 3, according to an announcement received from the school.

"The Avon Players," said the announcement, "are bringing with them a full cast, and since this is one of Shakespeare's most interesting plays, it should be highly entertaining. The public is cordially invited."

## Muse's Corner

### Mr. 'Possum

He is as sly as any mouse,  
As cunning as a fox,  
And yet he never has any house,  
Or wears any shoes or socks.

In day-time he is very still,  
At night he crawls about,  
With 'simmons in his side to fill,  
And fun he cannot shout.

I reckon he is as slick  
As anything could be,  
Because he is a laughing trick  
For all the rest to see.

I have known him since I was a boy,  
And now I'm forty-two;  
This scamp is always filled with joy,  
This scamp is always filled with joy,  
—Troy F. Horn.

### Negro Singing Contest To Be Held Saturday

Negroes from Franklin, Bryson City, Sylva, Asheville, Sugar Fork and C. C. Camp F-20 at Rainbow Springs will meet in the Franklin courthouse Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock for a singing contest. Several quartets and a chorus led by L. C. Carnard are scheduled.

Other special features will include the Rev. E. Johnson McKay's "Five Minutes View on the Italo-Ethiopian Situation." Rev. McKay is pastor of the Franklin A. M. E. Zion church. Prof. R. B. Watts, principal of the Franklin colored school will also speak. Mrs. Martin will render one of her poems.

A small admission will be charged. Seating arrangements will be made to accommodate both white and colored people.

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