## The Franklin Press

## The Highlands Maconian

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#### We Are Proud of This Record

WORDS fail us in attempting to say what we think should be said in commendation of the people of Macon county for their splendid response to the appeal of the Red Cross for funds to relieve the suffering caused by the tornado at Gainesville last week.

This county's quota was set at \$300, but that amount had already been received before the local Red Cross chapter had been informed of this goal. Contributions poured in all last week and continued to come in this week. Yesterday a check for \$259.36 from the employes of the Ritter Lumber Company, many of whom had contributed a full day's wages, swelled the fund to nearly \$900three times the county's quota.

This indeed is a record to be proud of. It is the finest manifestation of a generous and wholesome public spirit that the editor of this newspaper has seen in his five years of residence in this county.

#### Our Hat Is Off to Gainesville

IF anyone is dubious about the future of Cainesville, Ga., he is all wet. It would take more than a tornado to ruin that town. Even if a flood should sweep down upon it and bury it a thousand fathoms, we feel quite sure the business men of the town would emerge in an ark, and, when the waters had subsided, would be found doing business and serving the public at their accustomed places.

Hardly had the smoke died away from the fires which followed the tornado before Gainesville began planning to rebuild. The town's come-back spirit is is reflected by the Gainesville News, which, with the assistance of the Atlanta Journal, was published as usual last week, albeit a few days late. The News shop was right in the midst of the devastated area and like other buildings in the vicinity was turned into a shambles. Undaunted, A. S. Hardy and sons, publishers, carried on the old tradition: "The paper must come out." And no makeshift was it, but 10 pages chuck full of news and advertisements. Of course, tornado news and pictures predominated; but Editor Hardy, instead of emphasizing the sorry plight of his community, wisely played up its plans for rebuilding.

The advertisements were in this strain: "Open for Business as Usual"—"Gainesville Will Rebuild"— "We Have Opened Temporary Quarters"-and one merchant, spared by the wrath of the winds, told his patrons, "Fortunately, We Have Never Closed-You Can Get Anything We Have Whether You Have the Cash or Not.'

The forward-looking citizens already are talking about widening streets and building a new and better courthouse.

Such spirit as this cannot be downed. For Gainesville we predict a bright future. From the hopeless looking pile of debris that marked that town's place on the map last week will rise a city even more beautiful than the charming community we used to know.

#### This Fellow McDonald

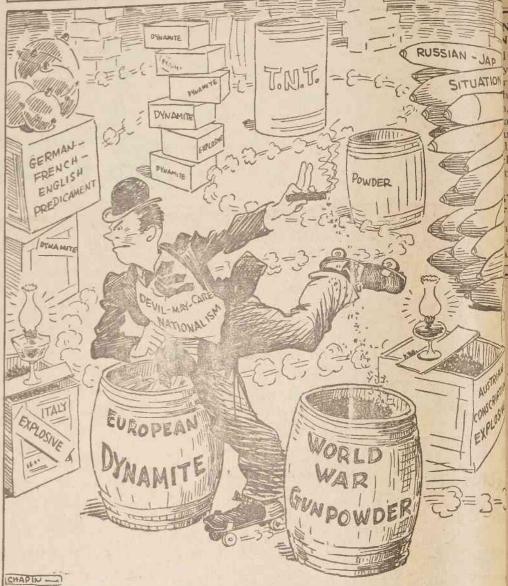
A FEW years ago Ralph W. McDonald was a total stranger to the voters of North Carolina, but not so now; every man and woman who pays sales tax knows he is trying to get elected governor by promising to abolish this levy and soak the rich a little more.

"It won't work; he'll bankrupt the state," cry Clyde Hooey and Sandy Graham, with various officials, including statistical Allen Maxwell, Revenue Commissioner, adding their voices to the chorus.

Some rainy day before the primary rolls around we are going to study the whole situation in an effort to determine for ourselves whether this upstart from Winston-Salem knows what he is talking about or is the impractical sort of a guy his opponents paint him. Meanwhile we are having lots of fun watching the show. Hooey, who should be governor by political inheritance, and Graham, who

# TICKLISH MOMENTS-





should be governor because his name is Graham, are certainly having a run for their money while that sleek colt from Forsyth frisks about the track, refusing to pay any attention to the rules of the

Just now it looks like anybody's race, and we are not going to venture a prediction or voice a preference. Frankly, we haven't made up our mind. But to our way of thinking, Mr. McDonald is certainly exercising a fine influence on the Democratic party in North Carolina. If it were not for such as he cropping up now and then, it would be mighty easy for the party, at least as far as state politics is concerned, to lapse into a smug complacency revolting even to good Democrats.

### LETTER-PRESS

CONCERNING OUR SCHOOLS

Editor of Franklin Press:

Will you please permit me space in your paper for a few words? of the old saying that two heads sheep's head. Well, it may be true in some cases, but I actually believe that it would have been better children in rural sections because if only the sheep's head had been working by itself when some of although it would be too unjust to

I would like to look in the eyes of the makers of these laws, and I would like to clasp their hands and lead them over some of the roads of six or eight of our Western North Carolina counties. They could see with their own eyes, if they were not blind, and if blind they could feel sufficiently to be convinced that our school laws are not based or founded on justicethey do not, and cannot give justice to all the childern of our state. As long as any law does not give every boy, girl, man and woman the same equal chance, then that law is rotten, therefore our consolidated school laws are not just, because they have in the past, are doing so at present, and continue as long as they exist, to deprive hundreds of our boys and girls of getting any further in school than the seventh grade, because the law does not allow the rural school teacher to teach higher than the seventh grade.

The law does not provide any way whatsoever for the child who is so unfortunate as to live on a road where a bus cannot pick them

It is unfair to some of the children who ride busses because some of them have to walk a long way to get to the bus line, and sometimes they have to stand several minutes in rain, snow, and cold waiting for the bus to arrive.

Some of the children must leave home so early and get home so

with them morning and night, from their homes to the bus line,

It is unfair to some children because it compels them to put in I suppose all of you have heard from ten to twelve hours and in some cases, even more time than are better than one, if one IS a that, each school day if they get a high school education.

It is unfair to the parents of children have to leave so early and get home so late that they haven't our school laws were being made, any time to help their parents do any work at all, and it deprives the the poor sheep's head to blame it child of a lot of practical experifor such rotten, unfair, and unjust ence which is, I think, a most esschool laws as some we have at sential thing in the education of boy or girl.

The consolidated school takes the farm boy to the city, while the government is spending millions of dollars trying to get them back

on the farm. There is another state law that has been condemned by hundreds of citizens of the state—that is the law concerning the changing every few years of the text books. What justice is there in making the taxpayers of the state, pay out thousands of dollars to get new books for their children, when they have older books that are good? If a book will do to train a child today, why would it not do to train another ten or fifteen years hence? I see no justice in it. It takes thousands of dollars out of the taxpayers pockets and puts it into the hands of the publishing companies. It seems, in this case, that it must have been a swine's head that was doing the figuring when this law was passed. At least it seems to empty a lot of little pockets just to fill up a FEW. What about it? Do you call that

There is another thing I condemn the consolidated school laws for, It happened in this (Macon) county, and in my own community. The compulsory school laws compels all children up to fourteen years of age to go to school. That's all good and well, but what I am trying to get at is this: There was a boy in my community who finished the late that they must carry a light He took the examination and was

qualified to enter highs the compulsory school la any? No, because the school law put him 6%1 school, and gave him: transportation.

The consolidated school rotten because they brin and girls from all over to the towns and di most of them when they up to seek some kind ment in the cities. In the consolidated schools ed hundreds of boys to country homes and try ployment in towns and I believe in a good man cases, the real blame be placed on consolida laws, because in the fir brings the country boy to seek employment after ates and in many cases find employment, which lead some to criminal had been educated in t at his country school he have ever come to the would have been conte job on the farm.

I have looked at the school laws from man angles and I can't im does justice to all, an see where there has been very much stronger that the sheep used in the B passing of such laws.

In the case of the boy-any one who live county knows the condi country roads, and also six and a half miles in a rainy weather is much to

a boy 13 years old to 8 Did the consolidated give the little fellow the his parents paid for, others? Do you call # Was the boy to be blan his parents? No. Ther reason under heaven and that boy's going througonly a SEVENTH GRA tion, except the consolid laws. This case serves illustration of the many ilar to this.

Some of you people " am "knocking" education you are entirely wrong hundred per cent for ed boys and girls of our for God's and humanity's have laws and men at ! them that will give bot and taxpayers their just est rights. It CAN be do not start?

Franklin, N. C.

Laugh From the A laugh to be joyous from a joyous heart, kindness there can be to