

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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This newspaper invites its readers to express their opinions on matters of public interest through its columns. The Press-Maconian 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. The editor reserves the right to reject letters which are too long, are of small general interest or which would violate the sensibilities of our readers.

BIBLE THOUGHT

And they crucified him....—St. Matthew.
Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new sepulchre.... Then went in also that other disciple which came first to the sepulchre, and he saw and believed.
St. John

If we could only lift up our heads and live with Him; live new lives, high lives, lives of hope and love and holiness, to which death should be... the letting of the life out to its completion. May God give us some such blessing for our Easter Day.—Phillips Brooks

Planks for Seven Platforms

THE rank and file of Democrats in North Carolina are inclined to be bewildered at the array of candidates for governor to be voted on in the approaching primaries.

What each candidate stands for and will endeavor to do in case he is nominated and elected is more or less vague in the minds of most. The few platforms that we have been able to peruse are noble statements too long and too general to lose the candidates any votes. Subtracting the personal following of the seven excellent gentlemen who have filed, we venture to say that a majority of the voters are waiting for some straws in the wind to guide them in their choice among the seven candidates.

We know of no better course at this time than to call our readers' attention to a convincing statement issued last December by Clarence Poe. Besides his magazine, The Progressive Farmer, the dailies of the state carried his "Program for the Enrichment of North Carolina". In declining the urgency of his friends that Mr. Poe run for governor himself, this practical, hard-working patriot has built a platform resting solidly in the soil of North Carolina's farms. Some or all of the gubernatorial candidates would do well to adopt it. If enough of the farmers demand it, we predict that they can elect Mr. Poe's platform.

Because we consider this program the most definite that has yet been offered in regard to the issues before the people in 1940, we intend to recall its most significant parts in this and later editorials. This may help voters to a better knowledge of issues affecting the great majority whose interests are not represented by lobbyists when the legislature meets.

Mr. Poe says that the next administration ought to be a "Condition of the People" administration. His program is based upon the facts—often disagreeable facts—of the people's present condition. He is concerned about the unnecessary poverty and ugliness, the appalling neglect of natural and human resources. His concern is also for the encouragement of every businessman who would develop new sources of industry with fairness to wage earners and the buying public.

"The first big thing that all North Carolinians need to do is to wake up and face the stark economic facts about the poverty of North Carolina and the consequent imperative need—both the imperative need and challenging opportunity—for making North Carolina a richer state. The second is that we shall realize that no matter who are our state officials, the job cannot be done without an unusually able and progressive legislature and without an unusually aroused and militantly united citizenship.

What are the seven basic facts that all of us who love North Carolina ought to face? I would list them as follows:

1. North Carolina is a poor state.
2. It ought not to be a poor state.
3. We have plenty of natural resources to make it a rich state.
4. Our people have plenty of ability, energy, and character to make it a rich state.
5. We also have plenty of institutions, agencies, and organizations to make it a rich state—if they could be united in one inspiring forward movement to this end.
6. To mobilize all North Carolina for this purpose is the present supreme need—to forget for four years the factions and schisms that so easily beset us and get all our people to work as hard and enthusiastically for enriching North Carolina as they usually work for some favorite candidate or nominee.
7. Sometime, sometime, North Carolina will be a rich state. It is coming. Sloppy with opportunity, there is a conspiracy of nature to make it a rich state, as Bion Butler used to say. The only question is as to whether our emancipation from poverty shall come in time to reward men and women of this generation, the men and women who have yearned and labored to this end through the past 10, 20, 30, or 40 years. It is for the hastening of 'the good day surely coming' that I would plead."

Colonists Off to Seek Utopia in Caribbean Sea



En route to East Caicos, a 125,000-acre island at the southeastern end of the Bahamas, this small group recently arrived in Cutler, Fla., from Pasadena, Calif. They hope to establish a perfect community on the uninhabited isle, which is a 700-mile voyage from Miami. Standing, left to right: Dawn Irvine, Mrs. A. E. Lawrence and Jane Irvine. Seated, left to right: Helene Irvine, Mrs. Richard C. Irvine, Mrs. A. L. Lornsten and Mrs. James Lake. Mrs. Lake owns the island where the colonists will attempt building their Utopia.

New Jap Premier Holds Press Session



Admiral Mitsuoka Yonai, newly appointed premier of Japan, talks to a press conference after a visit to the imperial palace. Admiral Yonai is regarded as a moderate, and has frequently stressed the necessity for amity in Japanese-American and Japanese-British relations. Admiral Yonai has been commander-in-chief of the Imperial fleet since 1936.

Pigeons Blessed



His excellency, Ildefonso Cardinal Schuster, archbishop of Milan, Italy, blesses the pigeons launched on the feast of St. Anthony. Only unhappy spectator is the little Italian girl who is holding the basket and whose view is obliterated by the cover.

Girl Scouts Busy On Spring Projects

The Franklin Girl Scouts have been very busy during the past week, beginning on spring projects and working on the various projects already under way.

The Girl Scouts received this past week, as a gift from Mrs. Angie W. Cox, a year's subscription to "Sunset", a garden magazine, together with morning glory seeds for planting about the scout house.

Window boxes have been given to the girls by Rev. Frank Bloxham and more morning glory seeds have been furnished by Mrs. James Averell. The present plans are to place the boxes along the edge of the porch that it may be shaded with morning glory vines this summer. Gardening will be done by the girls.

The Intermediate patrol of the Girl Scouts met in their scout house Thursday. The name "Mountain Laurel" was selected for the patrol. A new refreshment committee of Ida Mae Dowdle and Betty Horsley was appointed. The work of puppet making is progressing under the direction of Mrs. Dick Jones. All the scouts of the "Mountain Laurel" patrol wish to express their gratitude to Mrs. Jones for helping them so much with their puppets. A portable folding puppet stage is being made for the Scouts by Rev. I. L. Roberts.

The "Care of Books" campaign has been continued and stacks of magazines collected by the girls for the Bookmobile have been taken to the library.

The senior Girl Scouts last week held the first of a series of dances at the Agricultural Building, with 15 couples in attendance. The dance was chaperoned by Mr. and Mrs. Ben McGlamery, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Church, and Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Melichar. Rules made by the girls were observed by all the young people. The building was left in order after the dance, and the girls reported at home before 11 o'clock.

Fight Cancer With Knowledge

Cancer control depends on the cooperation of men and women everywhere, according to Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, in a statement made public here today by Mrs. J. E. Perry, captain of the women's field army unit in Macon county.

Mrs. Roosevelt's full statement follows:

"The control of cancer—like so many other desirable goals—depends on the cooperation of men and women everywhere. The general public must participate as well as the trained physician and research worker.

"It is through education that the women's field army of the American society for the control of cancer hopes to reduce mortality from this disease. Developed under the supervision of physicians who act as spokesmen for their state medical societies, this educational program seeks to teach the individual a few basic facts about cancer for his own protection and to enlist him in a movement for the protection of all.

"The cancer army was launched in 1936 by a small group of physicians, research workers, and women. It has already become a powerful force in the field of health.

"I hope that men and women throughout the country will study the literature on cancer control and give this movement their support."

Mrs. Roosevelt is honorary chairman of the national advisory board of the women's field army of the American society for the control of cancer.

To maintain oneself on this earth is not a hardship but a pastime, if one will live simply and wisely.—Thoreau.

The world's largest carpet is in a London theatre. It is 100 feet long and weighs more than 2,000 pounds and to lift it, more than 25 men are required.

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