# The Franklin Press

# The Highlands Maconian

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#### When De Soto Came to Franklin

ANOTHER ready-made asset is being handed to Macon county from a surprising source. We suddenly find ourselves in the limelight, through no merit or fault of our own, and are asked what we are going to do about it.

All because the famous Spanish explorer, Hernando De Soto, with his tired men and horses rested on the banks of the Little Tennessee near the Franklin bridge just 400 years ago.

The recent report made to Congress by the De Soto Expedition Commission recommends fitting commemoration of the event along the route from Florida to the Mississippi. This document suggests commemoration of his "passing of the Little Tennessee at the present site of Franklin, N. C." is of interest to the entire State from the fact that it was the "first discovery of any of the inland tributaries of the Mississippi by Europeans."

The spot of De Soto's encampment has been located near the Franklin bridge, and, as if to provide further drama to this colorful parade of bedraggled Spaniards, starved horses and Indian camp followers, it was at this spot that a kidnaped Indian princess, with a box of "unbored pearls," escaped her captors with two (or three) deserting Spaniards-one of whom she married!

Other less romantic details lend color for a dramatic presentation of this early chapter of our history. Dr. Crittenden, of the N. C. Historical Commission, writes, "This march of De Soto's was one of the most important events in all the history of North Carolina. Within the past few years Sir Walter Raleigh's efforts to colonize Roanoke Island have received a great deal of attention, but De Soto made his expedition almost half a century earlier-within less than 50 years after Columbus had discovered the New World."

The Virginia Dare and the Sir Walter Raleigh chapters of our state history have been fittingly. commemorated. Now, it seems that the De Soto chapter is put squarely up to this end of the state. Franklin is the logical place to stage a celebration worthy of the event. We believe the effort would meet with encouragement from other sections.

## Mother's Day

MOTHER'S DAY has come to mean much to homes throughout the United States since its inception only a few years ago. Promoted at first by florists and the telegraph companies-according to some-the widespread acceptance of this new "Saint's Day" has proved its value. A special day on which to express in word and deed, through messages and gifts, and by the wearing of a rose, devotion to Mother seems to us to have been a happy thought, whoever started it.

Indeed, a new aspect and deeper significance have come with the day. Family ties are renewed and strengthened as modern life tends to separate and scatter the children all too soon. As home ties are broken by the pressure of modern life it is well to use modern communications to bridge distances that have been created by a scientific age. The suggestion that Mothers Day be enlarged in its scope and called "Family Day" seems unnecessary, because that in reality it has already become.

The Story of WPA

A revealing booklet has recently been issued by the North Carolina Works Progress Administration that tells, in pictures and brief text, its own story. It is a story to convert doubting Thomases and even to give pause to honest critics. There are over 300 illustrations from the 3984 WPA-completed projects.

These pictures attempt to show "the credit side of the ledger in results obtained from making investments in the welfare of human beings-our neighbors, friends, compatriots." The pictures do not show "the heartaches and despair caused tens of thousands in North Carolina when they were caught between the grindstones of a maladjusted economy . . . nor that little spark we call hope which has been fanned within the breasts of close to 125,000 of our state who have been giving gainful employment by WPA when no other source of jobs was open for them."

"Eighty-five percent of the Federal money spent has gone into the pockets of WPA workers as wages. These small salaries have been immediately spent locally for the bare necessities of living, aiding local commerce. The rest of the money, including most of the sponsors' contributions have gone for the purchase of materials, equipment and supplies, and such non-labor costs. The material and supply dollar was injected into commerce, making other jobs."

#### Candidate for Governor



MAYOR TOM COOPER Of Wilmington, Spoke in Franklin

#### Mothers' Day Services On Methodist Circuit

Rev. Philip L. Green, pastor of the Franklin Circuit, has announced that special Mothers' Day services will be htld in four churches in the Methodist circuit. The schedule is as follows:

come to the Bethel service in the afternoon); 7:45 p. m. Iotla.

#### RED CROSS RELIEF FOR GREENLAND

Red Cross officials, considering the possible need for relief to 17,persons on Danish-owned Greenland, called Donald Mac-Millen, Arctic explorer, into conference May 3.

Mr. MacMillen came to Washington at the invitation of Norman Davis, Red Cross Chairman. Mr. MacMillen is considered an expert on conditions in Greenland which he has used as a base or visited in many years of Polar expeditions.

President Roosevelt disclosed recently that he had asked the Red Cross to look into the need or relief in Greenland in event the annual supply ships from Denmark failed to make their visits because of the German seizure of that Nation.

#### Press Comment ON TELLING 'EM HOW

The extent of the British disaster in Norway isn't clear yet, but from the standpoint of the Allies t would appear that the adventure in a state of woeful unpreparedness has both damaged Allies pres- A. announced, "It seems a safe military position.

To the millions in this country who naturally sympathize with the Allies this is distressing. But in that distress it is pertinent to remember that, after all, we who are MOUNTAIN LAUREL not fighting this war and who, we PATROL MEETS THURSDAY believe firmly are in no way called upon to fight it, can only prejudice the good faith of our neutrality by noisy kibitzing.

After all, too much or too lusty be conducted naturally invites the help fight it. Worse than that, it definitely promotes a psychological conditioning for that very even-

# Lee Gravely

## To Carry Campaign Into Mountains

L. Lee Gravely, Rocky Mount candidate for governor, will carry his campaign into the state's mountain counties next week, according to word received from his state

Mr. Gravely has come out in a recent statement in support of a third term for Roosevelt and the New Deal agricultural

Mr. Gravely says he desires to confer with leaders in this section relative to property "telling the world" about the vacation wonderland which has been opened up by the Scenic Highway connecting the Shenandoah and Smoky Mountains parks.

In the 1937 legislature Mr. Gravely introduced the measure which provides for advertising Carolina's resources and North advantages.

#### Census Near Completion In Some Townships

It is understood that the census has been almost completed in 9:45 a. m.-Clark's Chapel; 11:00 Flats, Burningtown and Ellijay a, m. Snow Hill; 3:00 p. m. Bethel townships. The Press has been (Salem congregation will please requested to announce to those residing in these townships or others where the census has been taken, who think they have not been counted, that they report their names to the office of the clerk of court at the courthouse. In some cases one member of the family has reported for others. Anyone uncertain that count has been made of any individual, is asked to turn in his name to be checked by the enumerator of his township.

It is reported that work in other districts is well under way, and will probably soon be completed.

#### New Records For Tourist Travel Predicted

New records for tourist travel in the Americas in 1940 were predicted here today by officials of the Automobile Manufacturers Association, authoritative statistical body for the industry. Nearly 60,-000,000 Americans will be taking to the highways during the summer months, the organization believes. Unsettled conditions abroad, combined with expanded facilities and accommodations in the great national parks and other tourists Meccas, were cited as reasons for

the statement. "This has been rightly termed 'Travel America Year," the A. M: tige and materially weakened their prediction to say that a new alltime high mark will be set by vacationists this summer."

# Girl Scout Notes

At the regular meeting of the Mountain Laurel Patrol held last Thursday it was decided to take up sports this summer instead of sewing and cooking as formerly advice about how the war ought to planned. The work on puppets is to be continued and we hope to suggestion that we come over and give a puppet play soon. Each girl was asked to collect magazines for the bookmobile by next Thursday. Ida Mae Dowdle and Dorothy Conley were appointed as refresh--Raleigh News and Observer ment committee for next week.

## **Muse's Corner**

REFLECTIONS ON MOTHER'S DAY Time was when the older generation Bore the marks but now who can say At a single glance about the church house, Who are mothers on Mother's Day?

In a many-skirted costume, shawled-shoulders, Her platinum gray hair uncurled, One could find her retired in a corner, A sacred picture to the youth of the world.

This picture becomes less frequent As our Time-keeper calls the years; The costume and general appearance Of mother's change. But youth reveres

Them with a love that can never change Until humanity is made anew, Because mother love is the same As yesterday, and just as true!

Tomorrow we shall still remember With that symbol, an old-fashioned bouquet, The mothers who grow more modern With the coming of each Mother's Day. Mildred Veasey.

ONE WINDY NIGHT A Poem for Mother's Day

One windy night I dreampt that I was cold And that my mother stood beside my bed Tucking the covers warm, smoothing my head, With that peculiar touch she had of old.

"At last you've come!" I cried, and held her tight. She answered, "I have missed you, too, my child," Her dear eyes almost twinkled as she smiled-"But could not get away until tonight."

A thousand questions throbbed like soaring birds, Then dropped on soundless wings, while heart and eye Each to each gave question and reply-A game I learned before I babbled words.

And then I felt myself begin to wake . . . "O, I will hold you with my arms, my will, My heart, so close that you will be here still When dream-undoing dawn begins to break!"

Then I awoke, embracing empty air . . . Her touch still vibrant on my hands, my hair. - Charlotte Young in World's Fair Anthology of Verse Refreshments were served by Barbara Stockton and Mary Fran-

# "ANGIE COX" PATROL MEETS

WITH SARAH CONLEY Last Tuesday, April 30, Sarah Conley's group, Patrol III, met and discussed the plans for puppet making and parts were chosen for two plays. The group unanimously voted to name the patrol the "Angie Cox" patrol and to help Mrs. Cox in the things she does in this community. Our magazine contest closed and Ruth Angel was the winner. She collected 120 magazines.

Refreshments were served by Carolyn Long, Carolyn Leach and Sarah Cunningham. Plans were made for a contest on the memory of our Girl Scout laws.

# Guideposts

The satisfactory experience of families we have served are dependable guideposts for those who have never been required to arrange for a funeral.

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