

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.

Obituary notices, cards of thanks, tributes of respect, by individuals, lodges, churches, organizations or societies, will be regarded as advertising and inserted at regular classified advertising rates.

BIBLE THOUGHT

"Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light and light for darkness."—Isaiah 5:20.

"Democratic institutions exist by reason of their virtue."

This Fourth Of July

EVER since "the good old times" to which Town Clerk George Dean referred recently, old and young Macon county have celebrated the glorious Fourth on courthouse square.

There will be the usual greasy pole and pig, contests and square dances. Everybody is invited to come and have a good time and compete for the prizes kindly donated by the merchants of Franklin.

But there is another note to the celebration of Independence Day this year. In the minds of all is the menace to this very freedom we celebrate and enjoy. Many boys who would be here in the midst of the fun are in the Army and Navy of Uncle Sam, many facing the danger of the high seas that threatens to come nearer home.

President Roosevelt's radio speech at 4 o'clock in the afternoon will be the highlight of the nationwide patriotic rally in which every American is expected to participate.

So Franklin's program of events for the Fourth of July celebration will unite with those all over the United States to symbolize the unity of this nation in defense of the freedom we enjoy. Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia of New York, civilian defense director, has planned that bands all over the country will play the national anthem at the same time and "All Americans in unison, 130 million strong, will renew their pledge of allegiance." This feature of the day will be "in response to thousands of pleas for an opportunity to express in some way national unity."

And Now, Russia

AS Hitler precipitates his latest murder spree on the world's longest battle line, the peoples hope that this will be his colossal and fatal blunder.

Nor the least factor in the outcome is the diplomatic front of Britain and the United States. Could Hitler have foreseen that the democracies would back Communist Russia against Nazi Germany?

With invective that only Churchill could fling, the British Prime Minister told the world and Hitler last Sunday afternoon: "Russia's danger is our danger and the danger of the United States; any man or state that fights against Hitler will have our aid." He asserted:

"The Nazi regime is indistinguishable from the worst features of communism. It is devoid of all principle except appetite and racial domination. It excels in all forms of human wickedness, in the efficiency of its cruel and ferocious aggression. . . .

"Hitler is a monster of wickedness, insatiable in his lust for blood and plunder . . . now this blood-thirsty guttersnipe has launched his legions against new fields of slaughter . . . he must steal from them (the Russians) their daily bread."

"His invasion of Russia is no more than a prelude to his attempted invasion of the British Isles." Following Churchill's declaration of all-out aid to Russia, this government issued a statement on behalf of President Roosevelt through Sumner Welles, acting secretary of state, which declared that Hitler's treacherous attack on Russia was further proof of the real purposes and projects of the present leaders of Germany for world domination. Welles declared that the principles and doctrines of Communistic dictatorship are as intolerable as ever to the people of the United States but that the immediate issue facing a "realistic America" was whether the Nazi plan for universal conquest and the destruction of the democracies was to be halted and defeated.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK By R. J. SCOTT



Clippings

DEFEND DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM

Some 6,000 Christian Scientists from many parts of the world gathered in annual meeting recently in Boston were called upon by The Christian Science Board of Directors to consecrate themselves to the defense of the democratic system of government as the best human instrument for preserving the basic rights of mankind to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

In thus definitely allying this world-wide religious movement with the defenders of democracy everywhere, the Directors stated that it was their conviction that if social and political freedom is to be preserved "democratic forms of government must be maintained."

DEFENDERS OF AMERICA

When you see a young chap in a soldier's or sailor's uniform don't pass on by with the casual reflection that it's just another soldier, or sailor. If you ask his Pop or Mom about him you will get the "low down" on a most important fellow. That uniform wraps up a lot of them—the smiles, coos, cares, and sacrifices belonging to his babyhood; the deeper affection of those who have watched him grow to young manhood. Back home there is a vacancy which hurts. Pop and Mom look at each other many times without speaking. Several times a day they run across some of his babyhood possessions; they stumble over some of his belongings, and they choke a bit. Of course, they are glad as well as sad. They are glad that their boy is doing his part. They are glad to know that he has the manhood and the courage to train and fit himself to defend his country. When you look at him don't forget Pop and Mom. They, too, are patriotic Americans.

And the boy? Well, he may not be conscious of anything heroic. The uniform has not changed him much. He may be rather careless, up to a lot of mischief, having a "devil" of a time in his free hours. But, there is much more to him than meets the eye. He has more big thoughts than his manner and speech would indicate. He has some pretty well-defined notions about right and wrong; some notions of patriotism, and of the dangers which threaten his country. He will try to have all the fun he can, but underneath is a sense of responsibility, and in the hour of trial he will play the man. He is the defender of America; he is the heart, the ideal, the spirit of America—he is America, and we are, and should be, proud of him. We are not glorifying war; there is no glory in it. The boy in uniform knows that. The glory lies in the fact that he undertakes to defend his Pop and Mom, his country, the ideals which his country cherishes. The task is hard, distasteful, but he will do it. In

the testing time that boy will not fail America—and the rest of the Americans must not fail him.

—N. C. Duncan in
Morganton News-Herald.

A USEFUL LEGISLATOR

Senator Pat Harrison was an able exponent of the persuasiveness of good humor. He used it on all sorts of occasions and it was convincing because he lived it. The genial, drawing Mississippi took on the hardest tasks that statecraft could offer—for what is more thankless and grueling than chairmanship of a committee that formulates a Nation's tax laws or what wider range of parliamentary interests could there be than one which roamed from industrial organization to foreign affairs?

Probably there has never been a sharper wit in the United States Senate than Senator Harrison's, yet it was a wit with so much genuine friendliness in it that it seldom stung and never rankled. Many Republicans who were the uncomfortable recipients of his barbs before his party came into power came to recognize that this southern Democrat was in fact a conservative, though his conservatism stemmed not from Wall Street but from Main Street. The soundness of a great deal of legislation now on the Federal statute books is attributable in large measure to Senator Harrison.

—Christian Science Monitor

Letters to Editor

Waynesville, N. C.
June 20, 1941.

Mr. W. S. Johnson, editor,
The Franklin Press,
Franklin, N. C.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Please accept our hearty congratulations on the excellent edition you published on "Ten Years of Progress."

The issue was complete in every detail, and showed that you and your competent staff did a lot of hard and efficient work in getting up the vast amount of interesting material.

We are preserving our copy for reference. Your community should be proud of such a progressive publication as yours, and you deserve every success.

Sincerely yours,
THE MOUNTAINEER
W. C. Russ, Editor-manager.

A PLEA FROM CALIFORNIA TO SPARE COURTHOUSE

The following excerpts from a letter to the editor with kind words about the special edition are quoted. They come from a good friend in Berkeley, Calif., Mrs. H. E. Averell.

"... Must try to tell you how much I am enjoying my copy of your Progress edition. I have been through it several times, always finding some new and interesting bit. The leading editorial and the article on 'Happy Hunting Grounds' are my favorites. All Ruth Melichar's articles are fine.

Gneiss

By MRS. F. E. MASHBURN

Sgt. Peter Wendel Keener, and Mrs. Keener of Parris Island, S. C., have been visiting their respective parents in Gneiss and Franklin, returning to Parris Island Tuesday.

Bert Tilson is still seriously ill. Mrs. Furman Corbin and Ennis Mashburn were recent visitors at A. A. Mashburn's home.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford McCall and mother were visiting relatives Sunday.

This Tuesday morning we are blessed by a good gentle rain. Corn is growing fine in Macon. The wheat being harvested looks to be of well filled heads. The honey bees have made many thousands of pounds of excellent honey from the white locust blooms. The quality of the honey being superior. The demand is unusually good.

Mrs. Viola Brown Bremmer of Parkersville, Mo., visited relatives in West Asheville recently. She was accompanied by her sister, Mrs. Ida Connell of Kansas City, Mo.

Sunday Mr. D. J. Moses, Miss Mayme G. Moses, Mrs. Fay Mashburn, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Moses and children, Misses Alma and Bertha Cabe, went to West Asheville to visit relatives.

Furman Peek, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Peek, has improved. He has been suffering with rheumatism for weeks.

Births Exceed Death In N. C.

From January 1, through May, this year, there were 34,444 babies born in North Carolina, which was just 1973 in excess of the number born during the corresponding period of 1940, the State Board of Health reports.

Furthermore, births during that period exceeded the 14,424 deaths in the state by 20,020.

Maternal deaths were shown to be on the decrease, there having been only 161 during the first five months of 1941, as compared with 188 for the same period last year, a decrease of 27.

From January through May, vital statistics figures show, 709 persons in North Carolina were accidentally killed, as compared with 543 for the same period a year ago—an increase of 166. Most of these deaths resulted from traffic accidents.

There were, during the period of the compilation, 104 fewer deaths from pneumonia than occurred a year ago, 39 fewer deaths from tuberculosis and 23 fewer from diphtheria. Up to June 1, there had been only 28 diphtheria deaths in the state. Last year there were 51 during the first five months, 27 of these occurring in January alone, as compared with only 9 in January this year.

The plans for the courthouse are surely imposing; it will do a lot for that end of Main street; but don't let them destroy the old brick building. It is the old-time things that keep up self respect and civic pride of the community."

SCHOOL DAYS 87 YEARS AGO

(The following letter has been received from a lady of the upper Tesenta section, who is now 92 years old. She recounts her early school days on Ellijay. Those days were a far cry from the log school house to the new Otto school building. But some will wonder whether we have traveled so great a distance in text books from the blue-back speller, the dictionary and the Bible. Mrs. Brown has not walked for 10 years. She lives with her granddaughter, Nellie Brown.—The Editor.)

Dear Editor:

I want to give you a statement of my young school days. I started to school at five years old. The benches were just logs split with holes bored and legs put in. My writing desk was a log hewed out in the wall of the house. The books I studied were an old Blue-Back Speller and a Dictionary and we would read a Testament lesson every day.

The teacher read the Rules every morning. They were: no throwing rocks, no swinging, no climbing, no playing in water, no fussing, or swearing going to and from school. The first writing was to make straight marks, then A B C's. Times have changed a lot since I went to school. I am 92 years old now. I got all my schooling on Ellijay.

Yours truly,
Martha Brown.

Cullasaja

By MRS. VERNON BRYSON

Rev. Frank Bumgarner of Highlands was visiting friends here last weekend. He also preached at the Mashburn Branch school house Sunday.

Leslie Higdon returned to his home last Friday from Fort Bragg where he has been employed.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Womack and children of Sylva were visiting Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Arnold and Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Clark last Thursday.

Mrs. Ray Bryson and children returned to their home last Friday after spending the past two weeks at Highlands with Mrs. Bryson's mother, Mrs. Annie Richardson. Mrs. Richardson is greatly improved after suffering a stroke of paralysis.

Fred Sorrells returned to his work at Fort Bragg Tuesday after spending several days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Andy Sorrells. He was accompanied to Asheville by Leslie Higdon.

Otto

Miss Josephine Bradley returned from Murphy to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edd R. Bradley.

In addition to the ushers named last week for the Asbury church dedication Roberta Henson's name has been added.

On Father's Day the home of Mrs. L. C. Holbrooks was the scene of a unique celebration in memory of her deceased husband, and to honor her 94th birthday that passed during the winter.

Those present were Misses Maggie, Belle, Elizabeth, and Ida Holbrooks; Mrs. Hanibal Bates, Mrs. Emory Keener, Bill Holbrooks; all of Macon county; Mrs. Charles Oliver, Winston-Salem; Mrs. J. Jolly, Cleveland, Ohio; ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. J. T. Jolly, Cleveland, Ohio; Miss Vinnie Jolly, Shelby, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jolly, Highpoint.

Mrs. Holbrooks' 94 years do not prevent her from having an active interest in the things around her.

Mr. and Mrs. William Richardson and Miss Kate Moffitt, of Cullowhee, visited the home of Miss Moffitt and Mrs. Richardson's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Moffitt on Sunday.

Miss Helen Mildred Foster of Atlanta visited her mother, Mrs. Edith Foster, over the past weekend.

Miss Kate Vinson has returned to her work in Florence, S. C., after a short visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Vinson.

David McClure, youngest son of Lem McClure, left Tuesday to join the Army under Selective Service.

Grady Henson is ill at Angel hospital.

Jim Buchanan has bought the old Farmer's Supply store building from Mrs. Matt Liner and established a general merchandise store.

All members of the Asbury Methodist church who are not attending Sunday school are urged to start regular attendance next Sunday.

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