

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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Some Random Questions—

OUR returning servicemen who want to stay in Macon County are entitled to the opportunity to earn a living here at home, and certainly it behooves Macon County—quite aside from its duty to its servicemen—to keep these young people at home if employment can be found for them.

How many employment possibilities are there here that only need development?
That query suggests any number of random questions on the subject.

For example:
Is there an opening in Franklin for a bakery?
How many greenhouses are there west of Asheville? Would a florist business here prove profitable?

What are the possibilities for small woodworking plants, in addition to those we already have? There is said to be good money in the making of wood novelties, and such a business could be started with small capital and a labor force of from one person up. Such a venture would have the added advantage of bringing money into the county with a negligible drain on our forests.

How many persons could be given employment directly through the development, for recreation and as a tourist center, of the lake areas of this region? And how many more could be given the means to earn a livelihood through truck farming, dairying, etc., to provide food for the visitors who came here for recreation?

What about a general repair shop for machinery?
Is the dairy business fully developed in Macon County, or have we merely scratched the surface? What about cheese manufacture?

Isn't there a section near Highlands noted for its cabbage? Why not turn that cabbage into kraut right here at home?
The list of such questions could be continued almost indefinitely.

This newspaper doesn't pretend to have the answers to those raised above. But they are worth answering. And it would seem to make sense to raise as many as possible, and then seek adequate, accurate answers through a comprehensive, objective, scientifically planned survey of Macon's possibilities?

The making of such a survey not only would be good business for the county. It would provide an answer to the pressing question: How can we find a way to keep our young people at home?

Clothing For The Cold

The Victory Clothing Collection for overseas relief was launched here this week, under the able leadership of Jos. Ashear, Macon county chairman, and Mr. Ashear will find the people of this county quick to respond to this call for the relief of human suffering.

To be cold is to be miserable. Most of us know that from personal experience. With us, however, being cold was a matter of a few minutes, or a few hours, of discomfort. And we found it bearable because we knew that at the end of a comparatively short interval, or of a comparatively few miles, shelter and fire and warm clothing were waiting.

In the war-ravaged countries overseas are hundreds of thousands who are cold all the time. Many of them have inadequate shelter, little or no heat, and far too few clothes to keep warm.

It is to relieve this suffering that the present collection is being made, and the people of Macon County are asked to contribute enough garments to average one for every man, woman, and child in the county. That's in the neighborhood of 15,000 garments.

The donors are asked, too, when they give a garment, to pin to it a letter of good will and good cheer to the recipient. Thus the gift will carry the other kind of warmth as well as that of the body.

This is a great humanitarian project. And it is something else; for surely these gifts of clothing, supplemented by letters, will do much toward building up that good will among peoples which, in the final analysis, must be the foundation of any enduring peace.

Due to unavoidable circumstances, the campaign here is late starting. That, however, doesn't mean that Macon County won't do the job. For it often has been remarked that all that it is necessary to do in Macon County, when there is work to be done in a good cause, is to present the facts, and then tell the people of this county what they can do to help.

That has been true in the past. Undoubtedly it will be true this time.

LETTERS

READING PRESS 50 YEARS

Dear Sir:
I am inclosing Two (\$2.00) Dollars for one year's subscription. Sorry I have neglected payment.
I have been reading your paper for 50 years. Don't think I could quit now. You see I am a Macon County man.
Your friend,
E. N. EVANS

St. Joseph's Catholic Hospital,
Bryson City, N. C.
January 18, 1945.

READS EVERYTHING IN PRESS

Dear Weimar:
It seems to me so inadequate to just send in a meager \$2.00, as my renewal to The Press when I might say how glad I am that a Franklin boy has come home to become editor of said publication. I have noted a marked improvement, from editorials through adv., all of which are of interest to the folks away from our home town and county.
With every good wish for the advancement of our town, county and The Franklin Press.

RUTH ZACHARY PORTER AND
J. D. PORTER

Emporia, Va.,
Jan. 17, 1946.

"FINE BEGINNING"

Dear Sirs:
I am inclosing my check for \$2.00 to renew my subscription to the "Press".
I join many other readers of the "Press" in extending congratulations on the fine beginning that has been made by the owner and his associates. There is no greater asset to a community than a good paper, and yours is just that. My best wishes are united with those of others to you as you continue your contribution to the life and welfare of Macon County.
Very truly yours,
J. LEM STOKES, II

St. Johns Methodist Church,
Rock Hill, S. C.,
January 15, 1946.

Others' Opinions

ON CONGRESSIONAL SALARIES

EVER since 1873, when congress raised its pay from \$5,000 to \$7,500 a year and made the increase retroactive for two years, our legislative representatives at Washington have been very timid about such matters.

The present salary of \$10,000 a year was adopted in 1925. The cost of living then was within 3 or 4 per cent of what it is today, so there is no good argument on that score for an increase. However, while congressional salaries have been standing still, pay standards generally have been going up very materially. Thus in September of this year the average hourly wage in all manufacturing industries was 76 per cent higher than in 1925; in soft coal mining it was 80 per cent higher.

Actually, if the time spent on public business is considered, members of congress are getting less now than in 1925. Back in the 1920's congress was only in session an average of five or six months out of each year. Now congress is in almost continuous session.

Consequently members of congress must spend most of their time in Washington. Most members maintain homes back in their constituencies as well as in Washington; whereas before most members left their families at home and lived in a hotel room during sessions. And the need to be in Washington so much of the time has made it impossible for most members to continue to run their law practices or business back home, as in the past.

When all demands and expenses are considered, the salaries of members of congress are inadequate. Unless a member has private means, he has a difficult time making both ends meet. It is well for a member like Senator Langer to shout that if a senator does not like it, he can resign; but it is not in the public interest that only men with private fortunes or outside sources of revenue go to congress. The senate was once called a "millionaire's club" and it will be that again if the pay is kept at a point where a poor man cannot afford to get elected.—St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press.

YOUNG MR. FORD SAYS IT

HENRY FORD 2d is the youthful head of the greatest family-owned industrial enterprise in the world. What he says about labor-management policies is, therefore, never merely academic, no matter how generalized it might be. What he recently said before the Society of Automotive Engineers is worth attention also, because it is good sense. Here are some of his points:

1. Real progress toward better human relationships in industry can do as much in 10 years to lower costs as mass-production machinery achieved in 25.
2. With management must rest the initiative for improving these relations for "management is in charge."
3. Union leadership must accept the responsibilities that go with power. The Ford company wants to strengthen union leadership in that direction. It does not want to "break" the unions.
4. The job of management and labor is to make more and better products, at lower and lower costs, to sell for lower and lower prices.
5. Both management and labor must accept their share of responsibility for the general welfare. The public is always the "boss," always above both of them.—Christian Science Monitor.

FROM A BYGONE DAY

NO, the date isn't 1786. But it could be. North Carolina and Virginia are embroiled in a tax quarrel which has all the earmarks of the post-Revolutionary War period when young Tar Heels, looking askance at its Virginia and South Carolina neighbors, compared itself to "a cask broached at both ends."

It's like this: Virginia has a 2% tax on out-of-state trucks using Old Dominion highways which lead, not incidentally, to the markets of the East. During wartime the tax was suspended to quicken the flow of war materials. On January 1 the tax went into operation again. Unless the Virginia legislature can be persuaded to repeal it, North Carolina truckers will have to pay up—and back to January 1—in April.

Riding into the battle, Motor Vehicles Commissioner T. Boddie Ward threatens Virginia with a 6 per cent retaliatory tax. This, of course, would solve nothing and hurt Virginia very little. The whole notion of state tax barriers is silly and anachronistic in this 20th Century when we are crying out against international trade barriers. Such tax laws restricting inter-state commerce were largely responsible for the breakdown of the early confederation of states. Virginia needs to mend its manners and its tax code.—Asheville Citizen.

- Deal with the faults of others as gently as with your own.
- Ability is the poor man's wealth.—Wren.
- The only way to have a friend is to be one.—Emerson.
- Victory with vengeance is ultimate defeat in the modern world. We can have peace or we can have revenge, but we cannot have both.—Herbert Hoover and Hugh Gibson.

Workers Who Reach 65 Should Inform Social Security

Workers who have reached age 65 and have not yet filed claim for benefits under the Social Security act should write or call at the Social Security board field office in Asheville, regardless of whether they continue to work.

D. W. Lambert, manager of the field office in Asheville, said workers should now file their claims upon reaching age 65 in order to protect themselves from loss of benefits due to failure to file claim on time; to give protection against possible reductions in average monthly wages; and to pay a monthly benefit to the worker who is ill and does not earn enough wages to be disqualified.

Such workers who live outside Asheville may contact a representative on regular visits to towns in Western North Carolina by mailing a post card to the office in Asheville. The office will then notify the writer the exact place, date, and hour of the next visit to the nearest town.

"There are two times for action in Social Security," Mr. Lambert said. "One is when the worker reaches 61, and the other is in case of his death. These facts, with the account number of the worker and other information, should be reported to the Asheville office at once."

Employers are required to give their employees a statement of wages paid at least once a year or when the employee leaves the employer.

Davises Visited By 2 Grandsons, Just Out Of Army

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Davis had as week-end guests two grandsons, Angus and Warner Steele, of Fort Deposit, Ala., who received their discharge from service this month.

Sergeant Angus Steele, the older of the soldiers, was with an engineer corps three years and three months. Although 32 months of this time were spent in England, France, and Belgium, this young soldier was too reserved to talk of his experiences.

Cpl. Warner Steele, who spent two and a half years in the marines, was overseas 22 months, participating in two campaigns. He said, "we took the Marshalls, invaded Guam and were first to land in Tokyo, where we were when the peace treaty was signed."

There is an older brother, Cpl. W. S. Steele, who did not come to Highlands. He was recently discharged from the air corps after 38 months of serv-

Teacher: If Shakespeare were alive today would he still be a remarkable man.
Student: I'd think so, for he would be 376 years old!

Customer: Can this coat be worn out in the rain without hurting it.
Fur Saleslady: Lady, did you ever see a skunk carrying an umbrella?

ice, 18 of them have been spent in India, and has returned to his former position in Montgomery, Ala.

In meeting the two visitors for the first time, it was difficult to know which were happiest, the proud grandparents or the handsome grandsons, once more in civilian garb and native habitat.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to our many friends and relatives for their kindness to us during the long illness and death of our beloved wife and mother.

A. J. Evans and Family.

NOTICE

The Loyal Order of Moose meets regularly on the first and third Thursday nights of each month at 7:30.

LAKE V. SHOPE, Sec.

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7:30 p. m.

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American Legion Post No. 108