

# The Franklin Press

and

# The Highlands Maconian

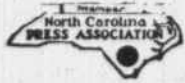
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#### As a Matter of Fact

THERE is no defense for mob rule. Members of a lynch mob are criminals and should be dealt with as criminals. And the verdict of not guilty in last week's lynch trial at Greenville, S. C., was a gross miscarriage of justice. As such, it cannot be too severely condemned.

But that in nowise excuses the vast amount of loose thinking and loose talk that have followed the acquittal of the 28 Greenville defendants.

The question has been raised, for example, how can we sell the theory of democracy to the world when justice in a democracy so flagrantly fails to function. The implication in that this is the worst, and the first, miscarriage of justice in America.

As a matter of fact, there have been, and continue to be, serious miscarriages of justice in every state in the Union.

Much of the newspaper and radio discussion of the case has left the impression—an impression that appears to be general—that the lynch evil is growing, cancer-like.

As a matter of fact, lynching is on the decline. Figures compiled by the Tuskegee (Negro) institute show a rapid and consistent decrease in the number of lynchings over the last half-century.

It is said the verdict shames the whole South. Why just the South? Why not the whole nation, for isn't the South a part of the nation?

As a matter of fact, it shames the men who made up the jury; it shames, perhaps Greenville county. But how can the people of Mobile, Ala., or Richmond, Va., or Dallas, Texas, be held responsible for a purely local miscarriage of justice in Greenville, S. C.? You can no more condemn the entire South for the result of last week's trial in Greenville than you could, a few years ago, have labeled all Midwesterners murderers because of the Chicago gang killings; or than you could, today, damn all New Englanders as narrow and Puritanical because Boston chooses, on occasion, to ban books that are on sale elsewhere in the United States.

It has been said repeatedly that the case shows some progress, and the Associated Press explains that "alleged lynchers were, for the first time in the South, arrested and brought to trial".

As a matter of fact, lynchers have been arrested and brought to trial in the South repeatedly—and convicted and sentenced. Such convictions go back at least 20 years. In the 20's, when a North Carolina mob mutilated a white man, its members were rounded up, tried, convicted, and given long prison terms. A short time later a mob stormed the Buncombe county jail in Asheville in an attempt to lynch Alvin Mansel, Negro. Members of that mob, too, were convicted and sent to prison. (The Negro, given an orderly trial and sent to prison, later was paroled on a basis of new evidence.) And there have been many instances in the South of a mob's either being foiled or of its members being arrested and brought to trial.

It is asserted that failure of the Greenville jury to bring in a verdict of guilty puts the clincher on the argument for a federal anti-lynch law. We may or may not need such a federal law, but the Greenville case certainly does not prove the need.

For how does a federal court operate? It operates, as a Franklin attorney recently pointed out, like a state court, through a jury. And who makes up the jury? Citizens from the court district in which a crime is committed. In a federal court, as well as a state court, the guilt or innocence of a defendant is passed upon by local jurors. Merely calling a jury "federal" will not remove the human element.

As a matter of fact, the Greenville case demonstrates—if it demonstrates anything—that state court officials in the South can and will arrest mob members, bring them to trial, and present the evidence against them. What more could federal officials do?

The lynch evil and the relations between the races are serious problems that challenge the best thought Americans can bring to them. We cannot solve these problems by ignoring facts and tossing logic out the window, but that is precisely what a great many commentators have done in this instance.

## Others' Opinions

### SWEET SMELL

Sweeter to the nostrils of a hungry old codger than all the fragrances of spring is a whiff of smoke off a kettle fire of cobs and chips on the floor of the meat house where some real hog meat is being really cured with real smoke.  
—Shelbyville (Ky.) Sentinel.

### FOLKS ARE FUNNY THINGS

Last week we published an article from "A Citizen" about lilacs and hog pens and since that time everyone in town who has a cow lot or a hog pen that might be offensive are accusing their neighbors of writing the article. It would be right funny to you if you know just how many different folks have been accused of writing the article.—Clayton Tribune.

### HELPING FARM PEOPLE

Claude R. Wickard, administrator of the Rural Electrification administration, made a speech in Spokane, Washington the other day in which he said that the REA program has operated so that "the federal government has helped farm people to help themselves." He sketched the successful continuance of the Rural Electrification program which proves that cooperatives have kept REA on a sound and consistent basis by operating the plan in a business-managed way throughout the United States.—Cherokee Scout.

### EVERY DOG . . .

What is so rare as a day in June? A day nobody sponsors. If you have a pet project for a special holiday to honor somebody or something, get it in early. The field is crowded, the number of available days grows smaller.

For years, the country limped along with such well-established holidays as New Year's Day, Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Armistice Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas.

But now Congress has before it proposals for a General Pulaski Day, Dedication Day, U. S. Marine Corps Day, American Indian Day, Good Friday, World War II Victory Day, National Farm Day, National Heart Week, Grandmothers' Day, Patriots' Day, Constitution Day, Thomas Alva Edison Day, National Freedom Day and Shut-Ins Day.

Nobody yet has proposed an Overworked Press Agents' Day.  
—The Pathfinder.

### OPPORTUNITIES

The fact that unemployment is on the rise in Haywood county shows definitely the trend of the times. The great peak for taking or leaving a job just as a whim, as there were countless positions on every hand, is over. In fact it may be a long time before such flourishing conditions for the unemployed come again.

This fact is significant and should bring a definite viewpoint to those seeking jobs. As time goes on qualifications will be more demanding, and the ability of the employed will be considered and questioned as it has not been in the last few years.

This decrease may be only a trickle of what is to come, but it should have a sobering influence as well as serve as a greater urge to thrift on the public in general.  
—Waynesville Mountaineer.

### FARMERS AND LABORERS TO BLAME

One would think from reading many of the colored journals of the day that the farmer rolling in his wealth and the factory worker whose pockets are stuffed with overtime pay are the people most responsible for the skyward trend of prices these days.

Listed here are a few reports filed on recent earnings by some representative American corporations. These figures speak more eloquently than any editorial could of the error that is made when the working man is blamed for the inflated cost of living today.

Consolidated Textile Co.—1947, \$1,445,660; 1946, \$311,564.
Standard Oil of Ohio—1947, \$2443,783; 1946, \$2,025,909.
Diamond T Truck Co.—1947, \$466,280; 1946, \$195,289.
Mid-Continent Oil Co.—1947, \$3869,129; 1946, \$1,627,996.
Noma Electric Co.—1946, \$1,684,707; 1945, \$330,499.

Hertford County Herald.

### OUT WITH THE COMMIES

The Winston-Salem Journal has published an expose of communist control of a labor union of that city. This is the CIO tobacco workers' union; and the newspaper's charges are sustained by the testimony of unionists, some of whom were formerly prominent in the organization's activities.

The Journal's case seems to be reasonably well established. The information the newspaper gathered was presented to Philip Murray and associated CIO leaders. Apparently the Journal got a promise but little action from Murray, so it went to the public with its case.

It has been known for some time that probably a majority of all the communists in North Carolina were in Winston-Salem, where the tobacco workers have offered a juicy opportunity for the activities of the radicals.

In spite of the conditions existing among the tobacco workers of Winston-Salem, it is certain that communists are a very small fraction of its inhabitants. It should not be difficult for the good American people of the city to purge their community and section of the left-wingers. Doubtless a large majority of the tobacco workers are properly classed with good Americans. The job of wresting control of their organization from the communists is one which should afford them great satisfaction and should arouse the approval and backing of the great body of North Carolinians inhabiting the splendid city of Winston-Salem.—Hendersonville Times-News.

### A VALUABLE ASSET

Referred to as "The Land of Waterfalls," Brevard and Transylvania county are unquestionably ideal spots in which to spend a vacation — and to live — and at this time of the year, we are prone to pat our selves on the back over the advantages we offer tourists, sportsmen and others spending time with us.

We brag on our majestic mountain peaks, our crystal clear streams, our warm days and cool nights, our many summer camps attracting campers from all over the Southland, our outstanding industries, our college, country club and other facilities offering recreation and relaxation to pleasure seekers, but there's one essential attraction that we're overlooking. In the town and county there are 10 great "A" eating houses. This number is unexcelled by any town and county the size of ours in Western North Carolina or the state for that matter, and we more or less just take it for granted.

We are extremely fortunate in having cafe, restaurant and hotel owners who are conscious of the fact that one of the main features of any progressive community is modern, up-to-date, clean eating houses. Sanitarian Walter F. Hart is to be commended for his diligence in methodically inspecting all eating establishments and encouraging them to reach or maintain the highest standard.—Transylvania Times.

Love truth, but pardon error.—Voltaire.

Our country has liberty without license and authority without despotism.—James Cardinal Gibbons.

### Smokey Says:



Having a plowed or raked fire lane can prevent fire from burning up the woods.

### LEGAL ADVERTISING

#### ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as administratrix of Wm. G. Culbertson, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at Highlands, N. C., on or before the 16th day of April, 1948 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 16th day of April, 1947.  
MARIAN A. NORTON,  
Administratrix.

A24—6tp—May29

#### ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of G. L. Garland, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 21st day of May, 1948, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 21st day of May, 1947.  
JOHN BROWN,  
Administrator.

M22—6tp—June 26

#### EXECUTRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of T. M. Keener, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 6th day of May, 1948, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 6th day of May, 1947.  
MRS. EDNA KEENER,  
Executrix

M8—6tp—J12

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of Mrs. W. T. McDonald, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 23rd day of April, 1948, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 23rd day of April, 1947.  
R. H. HOLDEN,  
Administrator

A24—6tp—May29

#### EXECUTRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as executrix of Annie Slagle, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned at 200 Grandin Road, Charlotte, N. C., on or before the 16th day of April, 1948 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 16th day of April, 1947.  
KATHERINE SILER ZACHARY  
Executrix.

A24—6tp—May29

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of Betty McGee, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 29th day of April, 1948, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 29th day of April, 1947.  
G. W. MCGEE,  
Administrator.

M1—6tc—J5

### ATHLETES FOOT ITCH HOW TO STOP IT MAKE 5 MINUTE TEST

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