

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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WEIMAR JONES

Editor-Publisher



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Independence Day, 1947

ONE hundred seventy-one years! It seems a long time, when measured against the individual's life span. But, in terms of the life of a nation, it is a relatively brief period; just how short is indicated when we stop to think that it was only about a dozen generations ago that the Declaration of Independence was signed; our American Revolution was fought by the grandfathers of the grandfathers of today's adults.

But it has been a long, long time, measured in terms of the changes that have taken place since that fourth day of July in 1776. Or, to put it another way, there has been an almost miraculous change in so short a time.

From 13 sparsely settled colonies along the Atlantic Seaboard we have grown to an ocean-to-ocean nation of some 130 million souls. We have become the industrial and mechanical prodigy of the world, and our standard of living for the average individual is said to be the highest in history. And today America is the undisputed cultural center of western civilization.

* * *

In those 171 years we have conquered the vast West, freed the Negro from slavery, and become knit into a unified nation. But we also have created the dust storm, devised means of economic enslavement, and given birth to new intolerances and tyrannies.

We have produced millionaires and labor unions; 50,000 planes a year and the atom bomb; Booker T. Washington, Eugene Debs, Gypsy Rose Lee and Franklin Roosevelt; the ideal of international understanding and the doctrine of isolationism.

We have fought and won five wars. And, so far, we have been victorious in another war—the ceaseless fight to preserve liberty; freedom of the individual both from the tyranny of government and the tyranny of class or economic control.

* * *

Some persons are inclined to think of this grim struggle as a New Deal battle; but Roosevelt's fight was only a single episode. Woodrow Wilson led a fight for the same purpose, and Theodore Roosevelt, and Andrew Jackson; and down through the years there have been thousands of less known but no less heroic champions of the plain people and the freedom of the individual.

The battle, indeed, began with the birth of the United States as a nation. Conservatives, men who feared the people, gained control of the convention that adopted the Constitution of the United States; and our personal liberties, which we take for granted today, are promised not by that document, but by 10 amendments which translated into law the principles of the Declaration of Independence. Those amendments, which we know as our Bill of Rights, were adopted only after a struggle; North Carolinians can take pride in the fact that this state was on the side of human rights—it refused to ratify the Constitution until the Bill of Rights had been made a part of it.

* * *

At this time, when we are observing the 172nd anniversary of our Independence, it is not amiss to recall the pledges our government gives to its citizens in the Bill of Rights.

Those first 10 amendments to the Constitution provide that in this country there shall be:—

Freedom of religion, of speech, and of the press; the right peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for redress of grievances; no confiscation of property without indemnification; no search of a man's house without a warrant; no accusation by witnesses unless they are produced in open court; no second trial on the same accusation; freedom from excessive bail, from torture to obtain confessions, from cruel and unusual punishment; and the right to a speedy trial by a jury, on definite, written charges, and to have counsel and to subpoena witnesses in a criminal trial.

These are the promises of the Bill of Rights. But they will be kept only so long as Americans are vigilant, and ready to fight for them.

... LETTERS ...

APPRECIATION OF MR. HILL

Dear Weimar:

Through The Press I wish to voice my feelings of appreciation, and I am sure, the appreciation of many others, for the good citizenship shown by Mr. George H. Hill while he has been among us as a neighbor and the principal of the Franklin school. We have been fortunate to have had him and his family in our midst.

All good wishes go with him in his new work as principal of the school in Robbinsville.

MRS. H. E. FREAS

Franklin, N. C.

June 26, 1947.

PARKING—AND THE COURTHOUSE

Dear Cousin Weimar:

There are two thoughts which I often have in connection with Franklin, both of which are prompting me to write to you now.

The first, and not the more important, is the matter of parking cars on the streets, the square, and many other awkward places. I was glad to see that the mayor and the town council took some action on this matter recently. But will putting a few parking meters on the streets take care of the parking problem in Franklin. It is natural and good that Franklin should be the center for people of the county and that they should come into town to do their shopping and to see their friends, but as a result the limited parking space in town is quickly tangled and it is almost impossible for others to get around. There are only two possibilities to the solution as I can see it. One is for the town to buy a vacant lot near the center of town and operate it as a parking lot, or for some individual to set up a central parking lot. In either case a nominal fee would be necessary and should not be prohibitive to people wishing to park. As I recall there are a number of such lots in Franklin which could easily be converted into a parking lot; then the places on the street could be used only by those people who expect to park for a short time. It seems to me that one parking lot in the town of Franklin would be a profitable enterprise. Wouldn't this be a good job for some veteran who wishes to remain in Franklin instead of going elsewhere to make a living?

I might add that all the parking around the square does more to spoil the attractiveness of the town than anything I know of. When I read a review of a speech made in Highlands recently on city planning my first thought was of the deplorable parking situation in Franklin at the present time!

The second item on which I should like to express an opinion is the county court house. Some months ago Annie Will Siler wrote a fine letter which you published on this question. In many respects I agree with her on the stands which she took. I do not agree with someone else that all the people who wish to keep the old court house in Franklin are living in New York city!

I don't think that there is anyone interested in the good of the town and county who won't agree with me that the court-house is in an abominable state of repair. It is no wonder that every judge who comes to hold court orders the county commissioners to do something. I usually chuckle when I read the repercussions of their explosions in The Press. They are rightly indignant over the situation. To be perfectly frank, the place stinks.

Now that we've finished condemning the building, let's say something to remedy the situation. The building from the outside has its good points. It is a fine example of its period architecturally and lends distinction to the town. That is the walls and roof, plus the clock tower, are all fine, why should they be destroyed?

A few years ago I was on the campus of the University of North Carolina, and I noticed some extensive construction work. When I inquired I found that on that campus when a building is in disrepair, if the building is worthy, it is completely rebuilt from the inside and the walls and roof, so to speak, are kept. Another college campus, Dartmouth, which I have admired follows this same tradition. Both of these campuses are well known for their beauty and charm.

It is a well known fact that one of the chief reasons why Franklin attracts tourists in the summer months is because of its beauty and distinction. Why destroy that part of its county building which has distinction? My hat goes off to the Presbyterians who recognize the simple beauty in their old church. It is no wonder that they wish to retain it as they make plans for necessary enlargement.

As a solution to the court house problem in Franklin I would offer these suggestions: The outside walls, roof, and clock tower should be kept. Possibly the walls might be painted white; this was done with some of the buildings at Dartmouth, I remember. The floors, stairways, and in fact all the inside parts should be torn away and replaced. Terrazzo floors and metal stairs could be installed, plus a good central heating system. These items, which could be put into the old building just as well as in a new one, would be a first consideration in any county building program.

If the available space in the old court house is inadequate, a new building could be built somewhere else, to make up this difference. This would be cheaper and at the same time preserve the historical value and the beauty of the old court house.

Franklin is a beautiful spot and I cherish many happy memories of my early life spent there. I should be happy to see the beauty which is in the old court house kept.

Dayton, Ohio,

June 19, 1947.

JAMES B. PORTER

● Others' Opinions ●

'JACOB'S LADDER'

Up at Franklin a few weeks ago the name of the flowers on the table where a group of us were having dinner came into question. It was what I have always heard called "Jacob's ladder", but that is not, of course, the botanical name. When I thought of it again the other day I looked in a seed and bulb catalog, but was unable to locate the correct name. I imagine it comes from a bulb, since the blossom is similar to the gladiola. The dictionary lists "gladiolus" as a "bulbous plant of the iris family", with gladiola as the commonly used name. Jacob's ladder looks like a miniature gladiola. In fact it is reasonable to suppose that the gladiola is the cultivated offspring of "Jacob's ladder".—Miss Beatrice Cobb in The Morganton News-Herald.

ADVERTISING AND SALES

A report by the National Retail Dry Goods Association, which surveyed sales in 323 department and specialty stores last year, shows that the proprietors of these establishments plowed an average of 19 per cent of their gross revenue back into newspaper advertising.

Maybe this doesn't look like much money, but it is. These 323 stores grossed more than \$3,000,000,000 in 1946, an average of \$9,288,000 per store. On this basis they spent an average of \$176,470 each for newspaper advertising.

That will buy a lot of space, even in The New York Times. It is probably axiomatic that the larger a merchant's gross, the smaller percentage he need reinvest in advertising. In small communities, therefore, it is probably safe to estimate that the average merchant should spend at least three per cent of his gross for this purpose.—Publishers' Auxiliary.

With the Churches

BAPTIST

First Church, Franklin
The Rev. Charles E. Parker,
Pastor

Sunday:
9:45 a. m.—Sunday school.
11 a. m.—Worship.
7:00 p. m.—Training union.
8:00 p. m.—Worship.

Wednesday:
8:00 p. m.—Prayer meeting.

EPISCOPAL

St. Agnes Church, Franklin
The Rev. A. Rufus Morgan,
Pastor

Sunday:
10 a. m.—Church school.
11 a. m.—First Sunday, Holy communion.
Third Sunday, Morning prayer.
8 p. m.—Second and fourth Sundays, evening prayer.

METHODIST

Franklin Church.
The Rev. W. Jackson Huneycutt,
Pastor

10 a. m.—Sunday school.
11 a. m.—Worship.
7 p. m.—Intermediate Youth Fellowship.
7:30 p. m.—Senior Youth fellowship.

Franklin Circuit

The Rev. D. P. Grant, pastor
Preaching services as follows:
First Sunday:

11 a. m.—Bethel.
3 p. m.—Salem church.
8:00 p. m.—Clark's chapel.

Second Sunday:

11 a. m.—Snow Hill church
3 p. m.—Louisa chapel.
8:00 p. m.—Iotla church.

Third Sunday:

11 a. m.—Clark's chapel.
3 p. m.—Salem.
8:00 p. m.—Bethel.

Fourth Sunday:

11 a. m.—Iotla.
3 p. m.—Louisa chapel.
8:00 p. m.—Snow Hill.

West Macon Circuit

The Rev. P. E. Bingham, Pastor
Preaching services as follows:
First Sunday:

2 p. m.—Maiden's Chapel.
11 a. m.—Gillespie Chapel.

Second Sunday:

11 a. m.—Mount Zion.
Third Sunday:

11 a. m.—Gillespie Chapel.
2 p. m.—Maiden's Chapel.

Fourth Sunday:

11 a. m.—Mount Zion.
PRESBYTERIAN

Franklin Church
The Rev. Hoyt Evans, pastor
Sunday:
10 a. m.—Sunday school.
11 a. m.—Worship.

Wednesday:

8 p. m.—Prayer meeting.
CHURCH OF GOD

Prentiss
The Rev. H. L. Helms, pastor
Sunday:

10 a. m.—Sunday school.
11 a. m.—Worship.
7 p. m.—Young People's Endeavor.

7:30 p. m.—Evangelistic service.

CATHOLIC

Franklin
(At John Wasilik's Residence—
Rogers Hill)

The Rev. A. F. Rohrbacher,
Pastor
Sunday:

8:00 a. m.—Mass.
INTER-DENOMINATIONAL

Sloan's Chapel
Sunday:

2 p. m.—Sunday school on the first, second, third, and fifth Sundays.

2 p. m.—Preaching on the fourth Sunday.
Sundays, evening prayer.

3 p. m.—Church school.
Friday:

5 p. m.—Litany.
Franklin Methodist Circuit

(A. M. E. Zion)
The Rev. John G. Williams
Pastor

Preaching services as follows:
First and third Sundays:

11 a. m.—Green Street church.
2:30 p. m.—Cove church.

8 p. m.—Green Street church
3 p. m.—Preaching on the first, second, and third Sundays.

Tuesday:
7:30 p. m.—Prayer meeting.

Friendship (Angel) Tabernacle
Sunday:
2:30 p. m.—Sunday school.

River Bend
Sunday:
2:30 p. m.—Sunday school.
3:30 p. m.—Preaching Fourth Sunday, conducted by the Rev. V. C. Ramey.

Wednesday:
7:30 p. m.—Prayer meeting.

Olive Hill
Sunday:
2 p. m.—Sunday school, E. A. Roper, superintendent.

NEGRO

St. Cyprian's Episcopal
The Rev. James T. Kennedy,
Pastor

Sunday:
11 a. m.—Third Sunday, Holy communion.
3 p. m.—First and second

Smokey Says:



Burned over woods can start soil erosion, and stream pollution, which ain't so good for fishing!

LEGAL ADVERTISING

ADMINISTRATOR C. T. A. NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator c. t. a. of Thomas Kearney Glenn, 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 30th 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 29th day of May, 1947.

R. S. JONES,

Administrator c. t. a.

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