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and

The Highlands Maconian

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WEIMAR JONES

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Speaking Of Democracy . . .

THE State Board of Education may take away from any North Carolina school teacher the legal right to teach, and nobody can appeal the case to the courts.

That is the substance of a ruling of Attorney General Harry McMullan, given in response to a question challenging the authority of the state board to revoke a teacher's certificate. Mr. McMullan, the Associated Press reported last week, "has ruled there is no law permitting suit against the state education board for a declaratory judgment setting aside its revocation order" in the case of R. L. Fritz, Jr., former principal of the Hudson school, in Caldwell county. "Nor can the State of North Carolina be sued without its consent, McMullan said".

Thus neither the question of the authority of the board nor the justice of its individual rulings may be brought before the courts for determination.

If that be true—and bearing in mind that Fritz' teaching certificate was arbitrarily revoked by the board, without so much as the pretense of a trial—one wonders what is to prevent the board from revoking the certificate of any teacher, with or without cause. What would prevent the board from revoking the certificates of all teachers who are Republican, or of all who are Baptist, or of any who may have provoked the wrath of board members?

The attorney general no doubt is versed in the law, but to many a layman this latest ruling of his will make about as much sense as did the education board's verdict—reached without a trial—that Fritz was guilty of padding his school's payroll, but that his county superintendent was innocent of any knowledge of what was going on!

Something To Be Proud Of

The past fortnight has provided convincing evidence, in such evidence were needed, of the public-spirited attitude of most of the people of this community.

Approximately \$1,000 was raised in Franklin in a two-day period for purely public causes—some six hundred dollars for furnishing the Stagle Memorial community center, about \$400 (at an auction of contributed articles) for public recreational facilities; and \$67 at a grade mothers' rummage sale held for a school cause. And just prior to that scores of persons had braved a cold, pouring rain to work at, or attend, a P. T. A. benefit football game.

Into each of these benefit affairs went an amount of labor and detailed planning by the sponsors impossible for the average person to realize; literally dozens of persons gave of their money, thought, time and energy to make them possible. And the public, the other half of the team, was generous in its patronage.

Typical of the attitude is the case of Benny McGlamery, who spent one evening serving as an auctioneer at the Rotary-Lions square dance event, and the next day auctioned, from early morning till mid-afternoon, without lunch, at the Lions' benefit sale.

Possibly even more striking, because less spectacular, was the work of a group of grade mothers who stood in the rain all day to seal rummage, in order that their children's room, at the Franklin school, might have shades at the windows and paint on the walls.

A Little Bit Of Butter

In one of his delightful children's poems, A. A. Milne suggests how important butter is, even to a king. Finding no butter on the breakfast table, Milne's king went putting back to bed. Then, when butter was forthcoming, he so far forgot the royal dignity as to slide happily down the banisters. A little ashamed, he explained to the queen: "I do like a little bit of butter to my bread".

The king's first dark mood undoubtedly must be that of many an eater-out today, for whether one eats out in Atlanta, or Asheville, or Franklin, all too often he is served a meal without even the semblance of butter. What once was a temporary wartime necessity with restaurant operators threatens to become a peacetime habit.

And what makes it so heart-breaking in Franklin is the fact that more than one restaurant cook here is a veritable artist in the creation of corn bread. Now of all breads, none is more delectable than really good corn bread. But who, we rise to inquire, can relish even the best of cornbread, without butter?

Go up, if you must, Mr. Restaurant Man, on the price of your meals, but please, we "do like a little bit of butter to our bread".

LETTERS

KEEP IT 'FRANKLIN SCHOOL'

Dear Editor:

I have noticed several peoples' opinions published in The Press concerning a new name for the Franklin School. My opinion is, keep the name "Franklin High School." That is the school we, the past graduates, graduated from, the school we all worked for to give it its name. I would like to say, "that is the school from which I graduated"; however, if they change the name, we feel as if we had no part of it. That school has stood there on "Ole Knowledge Hill" for a number of years and prospered. Why change its name now? Please ask others their opinions on this idea.

Respectfully yours,
MRS. ELSIE F. LAGER.
Newport News, Va.,
November 20, 1947.

FAVORS CHANGING SCHOOL NAME

Dear Mr. Jones:

I grew up in Macon County and graduated from the High school that is located in Franklin in 1933. I follow The Press rather regularly and have been reading with interest the pros and cons and discussions relative to the renaming of the high school at Franklin.

I think this is an admirable idea. I trust that the attitude of the students, especially those from the township of Franklin, has changed considerably from that of my day. It was always made to appear that we students who came from other townships of Macon County were really not a part of or welcomed to the school by the other students. I do not know just why this should have been, but it was one of those unpleasant situations that we experienced and talked about very much.

I do not think that this school should be named in honor of any individual. It existed before those individuals that have been named were born, and it will continue to exist after they have passed on. I might suggest that the county board of education consider the name "Macon County Central High". If not this, then I would suggest the name "Nikwasi High School", the name given to the Indian Mound down at the town bridge, as well as the former name of the lodge out on the right hand side of the Georgia road.

Again I would like to say that I think it is a very fine thing that the thought of renaming the school has been brought up, and I do hope that the county board of education will find it possible to give some of the suggestions favorable consideration, and that it will be renamed more appropriately.

Cordially yours,
FLOYD W. DOWNS
Berea College,
Berea, Ky.,
November 20, 1947.

THE BEER PETITION

Dear Editor,

Some time back a large number of citizens of Macon County signed a petition requesting that an election be called to determine the will of the people in regard to the sale of alcoholic beverages in this county. I have heard a fear expressed that some kind of political maneuver might be used to keep the voters from expressing themselves on this matter. Will you please publish the facts as to who has possession of that signed petition and what action has been taken in regard to the calling of an election.

If any official by any act—or lack of action—is in any degree responsible for depriving the people of the right to express themselves in an election on this matter, I would consider that person not to be a true democrat and I would be happy to cooperate with other good citizens in sending such a person to complete political oblivion.

Sincerely yours,
RAY N. MOSES
Franklin, Route 1,
November 24, 1947.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The 1947 statute, House Bill No. 1051, which provides for elections in municipal corporations and counties of the state, to determine whether or not wine and/or beer may be sold therein, provides that "no election shall be called pursuant to the provisions of this act in any county within one hundred and sixty days after the effective date of this act". The effective date was July 1, 1947, and no election could be called, therefore, on the wine and beer issue before December 8, 1947.

The act also provides that no election may be held on this issue within 60 days of the holding of any general or primary election in the county of city affected.)

Others' Opinions

MR. SLOAN'S LETTER

A letter in the People's Forum today from Harold T. Sloan of Franklin is a timely call to action for the improvement and beautification of the area surrounding the State Cemetery at Raleigh.

Mr. Sloan describes conditions the complete opposite of what the fitness of things requires for the last resting-place of the youthful North Carolinians who gave their lives for their state, their country, and for a free civilization. Surely this reminder will be sufficient.—Asheville Citizen Times.

A YEAR LATE AND A MILLION BUCKS SHORT

A headline bleated last week, "GOP Leaders Put Controls Return On Shelf". If my pocketbook has the right date, that act was committed over a year ago—or do you still eat on the folks?—Hertford County Herald.

WOULD BE SOMETHING NEW

There are three avowed candidates for governor of North Carolina—Charles M. Johnson, Mayne Albright and Oscar Barker. Without showing any undue partiality, we believe that Mr. Johnson is far out in front at the present time. That seems to be the general consensus all over the state.

If Johnson is elected governor, his election will break a precedent of long standing. He will be the first governor in many a day who has not possessed a license to practice law in North Carolina.

Of course everyone knows that Cherry, Broughton, Hoey, Ehringhaus, Gardner and Morrison were (or are) members of the legal profession. That takes us back to McLean. He is generally regarded as a banker, but he, too, had his license to practice law. And when we go beyond him, we find Bickett, Craig, Kitchen, Glenn and Aycock, all of whom were lawyers.

With very few exceptions, we believe that practically all the governors of North Carolina within a period of a hundred years or more were members of the legal profession. Just why this should be so is somewhat of a mystery, unless it is due to the fact that lawyers as a class lean more toward politics than any other group. Incidentally, both of the other two announced candidates, Barker and Albright, are lawyers.

And here's another rather interesting thing: If Johnson is elected governor, he will be one of the very few governors we have had who never were members of the legislature.

THE P. T. A.

The parent-teacher association is one of the best vehicles for a strong public relations program for the public school. There should be a strong well-organized association in connection with each individual school.

There is no good reason why the principal and teachers, the local committee, or the board of education should fail to cooperate with the parent-teacher association. Oftentimes, where differences exist, they are due to a lack of understanding of the policies, procedures and methods of the P. T. A. Boards, committees and principals should share their responsibility with the citizens of the community.

The sooner those in legal authority of each school adopt a policy of trying to aid the parents in the upbuilding of the school, the more secure will be our constitutional government and the more effective will be our democratic system of public education.—N. C. Public School Bulletin.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of Will Browning, 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 11th day of November, 1948 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 11th day of November, 1947.
GILMER A. JONES,
Administrator

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT BEFORE THE CLERK NOTICE

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY
GILMER A. JONES Administrator of Will Browning, deceased,
Plaintiff.

vs.
NEWTON BROWNING, MRS. C. M. BRYSON, MRS. BELLE O'DEAR and ROBERT BROWNING,
Defendants

The defendants, Mrs. Belle O'Dear and Robert Browning, will take notice that an action, entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, to sell real estate of plaintiff intestate to make assets to pay debts; and said defendants will further take notice that they are required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said County in the Courthouse in Franklin, North Carolina, on the 15 day of December, 1947, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This the 14 day of November, 1947.

J. CLINTON BROOKSHIRE,
Clerk of Superior Court,
Macon County, North Carolina
N20-3tc-J&J-D11

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of James A. McCoy, 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 19 day of November, 1948 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 19 day of November, 1947.
W. L. McCOY,
Administrator.

D4-6tc-J8

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