

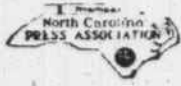
# The Franklin Press

and

# The Highlands Maconian

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At Franklin, North Carolina

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WEIMAR JONES Editor-Publisher



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### Making It Plain

**S**UGGESTING that we in Macon County keep this community "a place where locks and keys are not the first essential of security", this newspaper recently commented editorially that that can be done only "if we see to it that every crime of dishonesty is followed up, and the guilty party arrested and convicted and severely punished".

That is exactly what has happened here.

For the recent disgraceful series of housebreakings, burning and larceny in the Highlands community, 11 defendants last week were brought into court, convicted, and given prison terms aggregating 91 years.

The officers who made the arrests and collected the evidence, the citizens who cooperated with them in that task, and the court are to be congratulated upon making the punishment of crime in Macon County what it should be everywhere—swift and sure as well as severe.

Last week it was made plain that crime does not pay in Macon County, and the effect will tend to be what the previous editorial suggested—a few examples like that, and even "outside talent" will give this community a wide berth.

### The Negro And The Nation

The Negro today holds the balance of political power in 17 states, and may be able to name the next President of the United States, according to Walter White, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

That would be a sorry state of affairs, if it were true. Because democracy in America will be on the way to oblivion when it becomes possible for a minority group to dictate to the country; that is true regardless of whether the minority be black or white, labor or management, conservative or radical.

Fortunately, however, Mr. White's statement probably is more boast than fact. For most Negroes—unlike Mr. White—think of themselves as Americans first, and Negroes afterward; just as the fact that they are Methodists or Baptists, lawyers or laborers, Republicans or Democrats, is incidental to their patriotism.

### Words, Humans, And Newspapers

Of all the queer things in this funny old world, few are stranger than words.

Make the tiniest change in the way one looks, and you get a completely different meaning. The simple little word "far", meaning a long way, is an example; change the vowel, and you get "fir", or "for", or "fur".

Or take the word dad. Change the vowel there, and you get what many a teen-ager thinks he is, "dud".

Or, by changing a constant, a "tot" becomes a "sot".

And scramble the letters a bit, and there is no end to the possibilities in unexpected and undesired effects. "Bride" easily becomes "bridge"—and often does on newspaper society pages. And "applause" doesn't require much alternation to become what some applause really is, "apple sauce".

It is this similarity in words which accounts for many of the typographical errors that appear in newspapers. To the reader, they are merely funny or annoying. But to the newspaper, they are embarrassing, and sometimes serious; for a typographical error often has resulted in a libel suit. As an example, there was the headline which should have said "fetes bride" (in ordinary language, gives bride a party), but appeared "fats bride".

If words are peculiar, however, human beings are inexplicable; and nobody knows the truth of the axiom, "to err is human", better than the people who work around a newspaper. Whether it be the reporter, the headline writer, the editor, the typesetter, or the proof reader, all newspaper folk not only makes errors—they make errors for which they never can account.

Typical was one in The Press last week, when the last three paragraphs of a news story were omitted; and unfortunately, the mistake had to

occur in a story of the "feature" type, where the whole point was saved for the last.

The story, by Bob Sloan, was captioned:

Sorry, Transylvania, But  
We're Ahead of You Again!

The headline, seeking to tell the story's point, naturally was based upon what was said in the last three paragraphs; with the last three paragraphs left out, it was completely meaningless.

Here's the part of the story that was printed:

For many years the citizenry of Franklin and Macon County has been known for its remarkable record as a law-abiding people. It is a fact upon which many judges, presiding over courts here, have commented.

In such a community, of course, it follows that people pay their taxes.

This preface is in deference to our good neighbors over in Transylvania county. We hate to keep on getting in their hair, but the truth is, it is not us, but the facts—and it's certainly the job of a newspaper to report facts.

Recently The Asheville Citizen commented the Town of Brevard upon its excellent tax collection record, 94.45 per cent of the 1946 levy; and issued a challenge to other towns to equal the record. Not wishing to be boastful, but cognizant of our civic and newspaper duty, The Press pointed out that the Town of Franklin's tax collections were 98.09 per cent of the levy for the same period.

Frank King, tax collector for Brevard and Transylvania county, on hearing of Franklin's record, declared that Brevard's would have been as good if errors had been taken off. (We are glad to hear of one bookkeeper who admits to mistakes.)

Now come Mr. King and Transylvania county, in a later issue of The Citizen with another tax record, which they ask if any county can equal. Mr. King reports 94.6 per cent of the 1946 Transylvania county tax levy collected to October 1, and comments: "I don't believe that there is a county in the state that has a higher percentage record".

And here—for the benefit of puzzled readers, and as proof that the headline writer was not entirely crazy—are the three paragraphs that were not printed:

After conferring with Walter Dean, in the office of J. P. Bradley, tax collector, The Press again finds itself duty bound to report the facts:

Macon County taxpayers, up to October 1, paid a total of \$112,922.45 in 1946 taxes. That is 94.9 per cent of the 1946 levy of \$118,810.80.

Modesty (and space) forbids further comment.

### Others' Opinions

#### WHO PAYS?

Breathtaking progress has been made by humanity in the last decade, particularly in the physical and medical sciences: Television, Radar, the setting free of atomic energy, penicillin, a long string of synthetic vitamins and other discoveries too numerous to mention.

In contrast to this—sadly so—no such progress, perhaps no progress at all, was made in the field of human relations. In fact none of us has seen so much discontent, frustration and confusion as there is now. To do a good job of analyzing the whys and wherefores of this bedlam of human emotion would require a book of encyclopedical proportions. A visitor from a neighboring planet after a cursory visit to this hemisphere, would be likely to boil down his report to the words, "Most earthmen take too much and give too little." Thus he would describe the disease ego inflatus, in which a non-military private sees himself as a sergeant, a captain as a general, and a general as the all-mighty God. In the foreground of his hallucinations are the financial embellishments going with these various fictitious positions.

The word humility can still be found in all good dictionaries. Give more and take less! Economists mean pretty much the same thing with their cry in crescendo: Production, Production, Production! With the average man this somehow does not ring the bell. He immediately thinks of smoking chimneys, assembly lines and the hum and clanking of machinery, with himself as an onlooker. Give more and take less, on the other hand, is a very simple principle that every one of us, man or woman, can practice starting today, right now. It is a resolution in terms of the most elementary arithmetic or mental bookkeeping.

Take any newspaper, any day and you will find large groups demand by force (force it is!) more money or fewer groups of labor, or both. They insist on getting more and giving less. Each one of these demands when granted, and they are granted, for what else is there to do, knock another brick out of our delicately balanced industrial structure, raise the cost of living for all of us and bring us gradually toward chaos, a condition so yearned for by communists.

Ostensibly behind all this is the insistence to maintain or to improve the standard of living. Mostly when people talk about better standards of living, they do not mean better, nor do they mean true standards in the accepted meaning of the word. They mean costlier and more luxurious living but not necessarily better living. In fact, as a rule the costlier and more luxurious way of life is less conducive to good health, mental and spiritual growth, as well as true happiness, than the simpler more inexpensive mode of living. A plain meal with an adequate amount of proteins, calories and vitamins is sufficient for maintenance, health and vigor. Large expensive steaks, tempting desserts and other rich foods lead to over-eating and overburdening of the human machinery. Many diseases and shortened life spans have their origin in over-indulgence. Other pursuits of happiness are equally false. The expensive forms of relaxation are not as good for body and mind as the simple inexpensive ones such as walks in the woods, museums, libraries, concerts, etc.

Actually the improvement in working conditions is only a symbol in the battle for power between labor and industrial organizations, represented by management and capital. The power of labor has increased appallingly during the last ten years. By enforcing exorbitant demands it threatens our economic structure. These various infringements upon balanced economy may not be Russia inspired but their effect is in accordance with the doctrines of Moscow. Nothing would suit communistic Russia better than to have our industrial system disintegrate.

The original coalition of labor in its own defense can be laid on the door step of the large industrial companies. The writer was employed in a packing house in Chicago during the great strike at the beginning of the century. He remembers bloodshed, violence, gross negligence in accident cases, rows upon rows of strike breakers in crowded improvised dormitories and promises by bosses, promises which were not understood nor intended to be kept. Today the union worker is protected against all forms of ill treatment, but let anyone not protected by tough union rules tangle with a large company and he may soon regret it. In any form of supposed cooperation, they will take all they can and give as little as possible, preferably nothing. It was really they who taught labor to give less and to take more.—Dr. H. H. Bunzell, writing for Continental Press Syndicate.

"The people can do anything—once they get mad enough!"  
—Frank S. Mead in Christian Herald.

Virtue is like a rich stone, best plain set.—Bacon.

The world is a wheel, and it will come round all right.

### 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 placed 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

420-6tc-D25

### 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 placed 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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50c

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- Hot Rolls
- Coffee
- Desert

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