

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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WEIMAR JONES Editor-Publisher



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The Beer Election

II

MANY thoughtful persons are finding it hard to decide how to vote in the beer-wine election in Macon County February 14.

They regard alcohol as an unmixed evil. But they find themselves unable to go along with some of the more extreme dries in the view that alcohol is the worst of all evils, that it is the root of most other evils and, in fact, that it is about the only evil there is.

On the other hand, this middle-of-the-road group cannot subscribe to the view expressed by many wets—that the primary issue, in any consideration of alcoholic beverages, is one of money: that it all boils down to a question of revenue.

For, if that were true, then the next logical step would be to license vice and gambling; because both these evils, like alcohol, continue, in spite of laws prohibiting them, and both, if legalized, would prove to be large producers of revenue.

In fact, if we considered alcoholic beverages on a purely dollars-and-cents basis and nothing else, and if we carried that theory to its logical conclusion, we should find ourselves encouraging the manufacture and sale of "moonshine" whiskey in Macon County, in order to keep all the money spent for alcoholic beverages here at home!

The economic factor certainly is not the only factor to be considered in seeking the best method of handling the problem of alcohol. This newspaper does not believe it is even a fundamental factor. But it is a factor, and as such deserves consideration.

* * *

What are the facts about the revenue angle?

The 1947 general assembly enacted a measure doubling the crown and stamp taxes on beer and wine. That measure provided that the additional revenue collected should be distributed among those counties and municipalities which permit the legal sale of beer and wine. The distribution is based upon population, not the amount of beer and wine sales in the individual counties and towns; but none of this revenue may go to a county or town which prohibits the sale of beer and wine.

That may be a good law or a bad law. But it is the law. And the situation that law creates is "a condition, not a theory".

The increased tax became effective last July 1, and in December Macon County and the towns of Franklin and Highlands received their pro rata shares of the collections for the first quarter.

The amounts were: Macon County, \$7,201.73; the Town of Franklin, \$644.24; the Town of Highlands, \$293.50. Total, \$8,139.47.

Those figures are for only three months. If revenue collections throughout the year averaged the same, the total to come into Macon County would be \$32,557.88 annually.

That amount is approximately one-fourth of the total budget of the county government for a year.

* * *

That is worth thinking about.

Just because the amount is large is not, in itself, a sufficient argument for the continued sale of beer in Macon County; the money alone, even if it were ten times as much, should not be the deciding factor.

But, other things being equal, the people of this county would be foolish indeed to refuse \$32,000 a year—that sum would make possible a lot of enforcement of the law against whiskey sales, would pay for a lot of education as to the effects of alcohol.

Are other things equal? There are many factors that go to make up this problem. When all the pros are added together in one column, and all the cons added in another are the two sums about equal?

It is not the responsibility of The Press to attempt to give any final answer to that question—that is the duty of the voters. But in next week's issue this column will raise a few questions and point out a few facts it is hoped will throw light on the matter.

LETTERS

THE BEER-WINE ELECTION

Dear Editor:

I'm a little bit worried about the coming beer and wine election. It is practically upon us and I fear many of us are not prepared for it. I've been hoping that The Press would come out with facts, figures, ideas and opinions that might help the voter to make up his mind with regard to what is best for the county, but so far The Press has said nothing about it, so I have a few questions I would like to ask, through The Press, concerning the election.

Perhaps someone who really knows the answers will reply through The Press or in a personal letter.

Here are the questions:

1. Who is responsible for the coming election? Of course I know, or at least I have heard, that a group of people have signed a petition for it, but who is really behind the petition—who is the daddy of it, so to speak? Is he a man who has the good of the county at heart and with an open mind has studied the beer and wine question from every angle?

2. If we vote the county dry, do we have reasonable assurance that we can enforce prohibition now? We never have, you know, even when we had three or four prohibition officers all "cocked and primed" on every side road "North of the border" to Cowee gap.

3. If we vote the county dry, do we have reasonable assurance that the young folks (and old ones, too, for that matter) won't keep the roads hot to outside drinking places and dangerous hideouts within the county? That would really make bad matters worse, wouldn't it?

CORA TALLEY

Franklin, N. C., Route 2,
January 14, 1948.

'FOOD FOR THOUGHT'

To the Editor,
for

The People of Macon County:

Use your heads and don't let the bootleggers run your county. As many of you must know, when things are hard to get, it only makes the situation worse. And if a person cannot get his alcoholic beverage legally, he will want it lots more than if he could. (Smokers know how badly they want to smoke when they can't get tobacco.)

I am not trying to influence your vote, only trying to give you food for thought, and I believe, if you will weigh the matter thoroughly, you will see my point. Drink is just like a black market item was during the war; many people bought things—whether they needed them or not—just because they were impossible to get legally. The same goes for liquor.

I have been in almost every part of the United States, and there is more drinking—and more rough talk and rough action—where there is no alcoholic drink available (legally) than there is where beer and liquor are legally sold, over the bar.

VETERAN.

Franklin, N. C.
January 24, 1948.

Others' Opinions

'FEATHER-BEDDING'

The president of a non-union construction company recently told a congressional committee that "feather-bedding" by supply companies is adding 50 per cent to the cost of homes.

Houses that could be sold for \$5,000 cost \$7,500 because trade associations of middle men prevent a contractor from buying direct from the manufacturer.

Inasmuch as the business man runs a non-union operation, he cannot very consistently be accused of protecting the unions.—International Teamster.

WOULD HAVE ANOTHER LIBERIA

Comes to The News and Courier a circular from a New York magazine containing praises by superlative intellects of an article by a Negro telling why "he remains a Negro."

The Southern states, those of the Gulf and Atlantic shores east of Texas, might have become Negro.

Had the Stevens and Wade program of 1867-77 been successful, had it appealed to the respectable North and been perpetuated by armed force, these Southern states would be all Negro now.

Only those white people too poor and weak to leave the South would have stayed in it. Negroes would have dominated. They would have bossed. Absorption into the negro race would have been the only chance for a poor white family remaining and obtaining food, shelter. Many a year before this, 1947, all the white people except the paupers among them and the dirty dogs willing to be Negro too would have migrated to the Northern and Western states.

Seven or eight Southern states would have been converted into seven or eight Haitis by 1900, and non-resident adventurers and exploiters would now own them in fact, however the Negroes might think themselves free.

For the Negro people the white people of the South, the slave-owners and their white successors, have done more, have made more sacrifices, than have any other white group of people on this earth for any colored race. They, these Southern white people, are taking care of the Southern Negroes now. The masses of Negroes enjoy a measure of prosperity and education, because the white Southerners, themselves comparatively poor, give it to them.—Charleston News and Courier.

'IMPROVED' MEN

And it does seem to us that within the range of our observation we have never seen a woman pass who did not serenely believe that the fellow she is related to by friendship or marriage had "improved" under her tutelage.

This, we believe, qualifies as a major vanity of the human species.

In classic male gallantry, it is fashionable to pass this propensity off as harmless and quaint. It is not harmless and quaint. This business of a woman "improving" a man is a symptom of varicose self-esteem and a will of authoritarian dominion over the improvement project of her choice.

And that accounts for the difference in the male and female ego. The ego of the male is a war veteran, a combat infantryman. In the rough-and-tumble, mull, toll and defeats, of making a living, the realities and competition strip and cut back his ego to its proper size. He knows his limitations.

The female ego, contrarily, is not nearly so subject to these alterations. In the pacific sanctuary of her home, with her magazines and bridge, she meets few tests and so runs the risk of few defeats. Her ego grows to large size as a tree in a tropical garden that knows no woodmen's axe.

We have observed with melancholy that the average woman can take hold of a man who drinks too much, smokes too much, won't go to yappy-yap parties when the privacy of a tavern booth is the requirement of his soul's solace, will not listen to "Tristan and Isolde" on any manufacturer's Sunday evening hour—and believe that association with her has wrought improvements. She is wont to say that "everybody" has noticed the improvement.

The man may still keep his tall glass invisible in a cloud of cigarette smoke, remain away from all possible yappy-yap parties and listen to the Hit Parade—the woman nevertheless coolly believes that she has changed all that.

The jagged truth of the matter is of course, expressed by Oscar Wilde, who testified:

"The only way a woman can ever reform a man is by boring him so completely that he loses all possible interest in life."—Montgomery (Ala.) Advertiser.

Were half the power that fills the human world with terror, Were half the wealth bestowed on camps and courts, Given to redeem the human mind from error, There were no need of arsenals and forts.

—Henry W. Longfellow.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

EXECUTRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as executrix of John H. Thomas, 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 7th day of January, 1949 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 7th day of January, 1948.
LILLIE A. THOMAS,
Executrix.

J15-6tc-F19

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of Virgil T. Potts, 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 14th day of January, 1949 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 14th day of January, 1948.

J. C. SORRELS,
Executor.

J22-6tp-F26

EXECUTRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as executrix of J. E. Palmer, 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 January, 1949 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 January, 1948.

ELSIE E. PALMER,
Executrix.

J29-6tp-F26

NOTICE OF SALE

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY

Under and by virtue of an order of the Superior Court of Macon County, made in the special proceeding entitled, "Gilmer A. Jones, Administrator of Will Browning, deceased, vs. Newton Browning, et al." the undersigned commissioner will, on the 1st day of March, 1948, at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the Courthouse door in Franklin, North Carolina, offer for sale to the highest bidder for cash that certain tract or parcel of land in Macon County, North Carolina, more particularly described as follows:

FIRST TRACT: Being the same lands described in a deed from Andy Baxter to William Crump, dated August 1st, 1911, and registered in Book 8-3 of Deeds, page 113, office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, N. C., excepting the lands adjudged to belong to William Crump by judgment of the Superior Court of Macon County, N. C., August Term, 1914, copy of which judgment is recorded in Book W-3 of Deeds at page 181, Register's office, Macon County, N. C., to which deed and judgment reference is hereby made for a more definite description of said lands, containing 32 acres more or less, being the land described in a deed from Lawrence Hyatt (unmarried) to William Browning, dated 12 November, 1921, and registered in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book G-4 of Deeds, page 427.

SECOND TRACT: On the waters of Tennessee River, BEGINNING on a pine, J. C. West's corner, and runs North 90 poles to a white oak; then S 58 deg. West 13 poles to a chestnut oak; then South 85 deg. W 42 poles to a stake and pointers; then S 12 deg. W 80 poles to a black jack; then East 20 poles to the BEGINNING, containing 32 3/4 acres, more or less, being the same land granted by the State to Berry Johnson by State Grant No. 13519, recorded in Book G G of Deeds at page 411-412 in office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, being the land described in a deed from Harvey Johnson and wife to William Browning, dated 10 December, 1922, and registered in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina,

In Book 1-4 of Deeds, page 139.

THIRD TRACT: Being Lot No. 3 on mountain tract and Lots Nos. 1 and 2 of the lower tract of Carter lands of Macon County, as divided:

Lot No. 3 on mountain, BEGINNING at a stake or rock on the mountain, Roxie Burgess' S. W. corner and runs with old line W 19 poles to a stake; then N 3 E 40 poles to a stake in back line; then with old line E 19 poles to Roxie Burgess' N. W. corner; then with her line South 40 poles to the BEGINNING, containing 4 3/4 acres, more or less.

Lots Nos. 1 and 2 of the lower tract, BEGINNING at a black oak and persimmon in the old Tippett line and Andy Baxter's corner and runs S 87 E 40 poles to a rock; then S 1 1/2 W 25 poles to a Spanish oak corner of the Dan Carter Lot No. 2; then N 87 W 40 poles to a rock and pointer on a ridge; then N with Tippett line 25 poles to the BEGINNING, containing 8 1/4 acres more or less, the above two tracts being all the land described in a deed from R. D. Sisk, Commissioner, Will Browning, dated 27 December, 1934, and registered in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book Y-4 of Deeds, page 28.

FOURTH TRACT: BEGINNING at a pine stump 25 poles North of a B oak corner of the Andrew... and runs East 80 poles to a stake; then N 40 poles to a pine; then W 80 poles to a chestnut oak; then S 4... to the BEGINNING, all following tract BEGINNING at the first line of the tract above mentioned 30 poles East of the pine stump and runs S 10 poles to a stake; then W 10 poles to a stake; then N 10 poles to a stake, the aforesaid line; then with said line W 10 poles to the BEGINNING and including Crump's garden, containing... acres more or less, being... land described in a deed from Charles Morrison to... ing, dated 10 September... and registered... Register of... County, North... X-4 of Deeds...

FIFTH TRACT: Mountain... a stake of... Mary Lov... line, run... poles... chestnut... North 3... to a stake in a hollow; then East with old line 19 poles to a stake, Mary Love's corner; then South with said line to the BEGINNING, containing 4 1/4 acres.

Lot No. 4 in Lower... GINNING on an... and chestnut stump and runs North 87 deg. West 40 poles to a Spanish oak, the Dan Carter corner; then North 1 1/2 deg. East 12 1/2 poles to a rock, Dan Carter and Emils Siler corner; then South 87 deg. East 40 poles to a rock; then South 1 1/2 deg. West 12 1/2 poles to the BEGINNING, containing 3 1/8 acres, the above described two tracts being the land described in a deed from J. T. Burston and wife to Will Browning, dated 27 November, 1937, and registered in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, N. C., in Book C-5 of Deeds, page 68.

Any and all other lands or interests in lands, mineral rights and easements owned by Will Browning in Macon County, North Carolina, at the time of his death.

This 26th day of January, 1948.

GILMER A. JONES,
Commissioner

J29-4tc-JJ-F19

TRY POST-WAR 'FASTER ACTING'
666 COLD TABLETS
Relieve the aches and "sleep robbing" Miseries of Colds fast with 666 (Tablets or Syrup)
Caution: Use only as directed.

BACKACHE
For quick comforting help for Backache, Rheumatic Pains, Getting Up Nights, strong cloudy urine, irritating passages, Leg Pains, circles under eyes, and swollen ankles, due to non-organic and non-systemic Kidney and Bladder troubles, try Cystex. Quick, complete satisfaction or money back guaranteed. Ask your druggist for Cystex today.

HELP WANTED
40 Men Needed
ON REA CONSTRUCTION JOB
See
KEITH STEWART, Supt.
ZEIGLER CLINE CONSTRUCTION CO.
ROGERS GARAGE
Highlands, N. C.