



Entered at the Post Office, Franklin, N. C., as second class matter

Telephone No. 24

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One Year	\$2.00
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Single Copy	.05

Obituary notices, cards of thanks, tributes of respect, by individuals, lodges, churches, organizations or societies, will be regarded as advertising and inserted at regular classified advertising rates. Such notices will be marked "adv." in compliance with the postal requirements.

Whisperers

THIS primary campaign, unless it is different from most, will be marked by a certain amount of whispering—whispering aimed at discrediting one or more candidates.

A citizen who wishes intelligently to vote his own convictions, rather than being misled by some one who has a selfish motive, would be wise, when he hears these whispers, to ask a few questions.

Before he believes what he hears, he might well ask himself:

Who started this report? how reliable is he? and what is his motive in spreading it?

Is it reasonable to believe that the charge is true? is it in line with the known character and past actions of the person accused? and has the accused had a chance to disprove it?

Then the voter should ask the whisperer a question or two:

How do you know this is true?

If it is true, why whisper it?—the truth should be said publicly.

Are you willing, right now, to go with me to see the person you are accusing, and say this to his face?

Usually, the whisperer will have disappeared before you get around to the last question?

Poetry Corner

The Press is happy to announce that, starting with this issue, it will publish a weekly "Poetry Corner", conducted by Mrs. Edith Deaderick Erskine.

While tastes vary widely, there are few of us who do not get a lift from the beauty of imagery and the music of rhythm found in good poetry; and the paper and its readers are fortunate in having so able an editor as Mrs. Erskine to conduct a poetry column; for she not only is a poet in her own right, much of her work having been published in book form and in magazines, but is a competent poetry critic. She is a member of the National League of American Pen Women, and the Asheville branch of that organization sponsors the "Poetry Corner".

As pointed out in the "Corner", Mrs. Erskine will be the sole judge of the merits of contributions submitted for publication.

Naming A School Board

The suggestions in Mr. Dean's letter, published on this page, undoubtedly will provoke interest and discussion.

The comment below addresses itself to a single one of those suggestions—Mr. Dean's recommendation that the Macon County representative in the next general assembly reduce the membership of the county board of education from five to three.

A three-member board may or may not be desirable, but The Press is confident that no one of the three candidates for representative would reduce the membership without specifically providing that the change will not thwart the will of the voters as expressed in this month's primary—that such a change, if made, is not to become effective until two years hence.

This newspaper has long argued that the members of the board of education should be elected by the people, with the general assembly having no voice in the matter. It believes public education is in no sense a partisan matter, and that these elections should be strictly non-partisan—conducted, like the Town of Franklin's non-partisan municipal elections, in off years. Furthermore, it considers sensible a suggestion that the county should be divided into districts, and that each district should elect its members of the school board.

And this newspaper holds no brief for the present state law governing the naming of county boards of election. It has said in the past, and it says again, that it is a bad law. But, until it is changed, it is the law; and, as such, it is the rule under which we must operate.

The present law provides that members of the county board of education are to be nominated in the primary, and appointed by the general assembly. Under the law, the representative has a definite legal obligation to appoint those nominated. But, even if there were no such legal obligation, there

is an inescapable moral one.

Why hold a primary at all, if the representative is to ignore the wishes of the people as expressed in that primary? After five men are nominated in the May 29 primary, would the representative have a right to deny two of them their seats on the board? Is any single individual wise enough to set his judgment against that of several thousand voters?

So long as we nominate school board members in the primary, those nominated should be appointed—even if they should be the worst citizens in the county.

POETRY CORNER

Conducted by

EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE

Weaverville, N. C.

Sponsored by Asheville Branch, National League of American Pen Women

MOUNTAIN PEAKS

The mountain peaks were silent  
As they slumbered through the night,  
With the arm of God about them  
As they welcomed morning light.

—Elta Handte Blanchard  
(From "Shield of Faith")

FREE

(Published in Versecraft)

I need to walk untrammelled and alone,  
To shun the buzzing, busy-body hives,  
To avoid possessive hearts and claim my own,  
And be no part of hurried, scrambled lives.

I need to walk alone to keep my dream,  
To guard my faith from disillusioning blight:  
I follow all alone a secret beam  
Alive and glowing with an inner light.

—Frances Strawn Livingston

Asheville, N. C.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: All contributions to this column should be addressed to Mrs. Edith Deaderick Erskine, Weaverville, N. C. As editor of the column, Mrs. Erskine will have the sole and final decision as to what contributions are to be published. Contributors who wish their unpublished poems returned should inclose stamped, self-addressed envelope.)

LETTERS

URGES MORE LIVESTOCK

Dear Mr. Jones:

Your article in The Press of April 22 on livestock was very interesting, and is too true. I think the small farmers of Macon and Clay counties are sort of forgotten men in so far as stock raising is concerned. With all of our mountain lands owned by the U. S. Forest Service, I think we should have more access to these lands to raise more livestock for domestic use, as the people need this source of income to help them out in their small farming operations. We have no pay rolls in Macon County to speak of, and our timber is almost exhausted, so how are good honest people to live at the present high prices and pay their taxes?

Let us hear from others on this, through The Press.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Franklin, Route 1,  
April 26, 1948.

AGREES WITH EDITORIAL

Dear Mr. Jones:

Again you have done it with your scathing editorial on the nithings (that's an old and obsolete Anglo-Saxon word that deserves to be resurrected) who took their sadistic spite on the union organizer's car. Two or three days before in my daily paper I had had of Georgia lashings and thought "Thank God, my native state is better". Then what a shock to open The Press and see the headline of such an outrage! And what a consolation to turn to the editorial page to find your civilized article!

Thank you.

Sincerely,

EDNA GILLESPIE

Blackfoot, Idaho,  
April 20, 1948.

REPUBLICANS AND THE SCHOOL BOARD

Editor, The Press:

Sometimes I think we have a wonderful editor, even if he is a little partisan. Your editorial in the April 8 issue, "The Next School Board", was very interesting, but nowhere did I see a hint that 45 per cent of the people (minority party) should be represented on the school board.

The 1946 election showed about 5,500 votes cast. The Democrats got about 56 per cent, or a little over 3,000 votes, and of this number, about one out of every six was absentee. It's getting scary the number of Democrats who get sick or are absent from the county on election day. The Republicans got about 44 per cent, or 2,400 votes, about one out of every 40 was absentee.

Between God and man, wouldn't it be just for this 2,400 people to be represented on this board, for of all questions, our schools should be non-political.

But why a five-member board, when a three-member board could do the work just as well? I wonder if Mr. Carl Slagle, an aspirant for the Democratic nomination for representative, would reduce the five-member board to a three-member board, and give the minority party one member. This would make it somewhat easier for the Democrats to pick good men. If he won't, then Mr. Furgerson (the Republican nominee) might do this, and while about it repeal the McGlamery law which compels the school board to meet every month—just go up hill to town; draw their breath, five dollars, and mileage, half the time; nothing done, but some money is taken away from the little children.

Yours for fair play,

J. H. DEAN

Franklin, Route 4,  
April 28, 1948.

Others' Opinions

SALES TAX BOOMS

Here are the figures that will set politicians' mouths to watering in 21 states. The sales tax extracted one billion three hundred fifteen million dollars from the public and turned them into 27 state treasuries last year. That was more than any other form of taxation produced for the states. Tennessee, Maryland, Connecticut and Rhode Island joined up last year and turned governmental deficits into surpluses. But the success of the sales tax as a fiscal expedient does not answer the criticism that it falls most burdensomely on those least able to pay.—Atlanta Journal.

'Tis not what man does which exalts him, but what man would do.—Browning.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of Paul Patton, 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 15 day of March, 1949 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 15 day of March, 1948.

ERWIN PATTON,

Administrator.

A8-6tp-M13

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA.

IN BANKRUPTCY—No. 1158

NOTICE OF SALE OR RELEASE OF REAL ESTATE AND OF HEARING ON CONFIRMATION, ALIMONY, ETC.

In the Matter of GERALD W. CORNELIUS, individually, and trading as Highlands Contracting Company. Bankrupt.

TO ALL CREDITORS AND OTHER PARTIES IN INTEREST:

You are hereby advised that J. Clinton Brookshire, trustee in bankruptcy of the above estate, Franklin, N. C., in accordance with the petition filed by the said trustee, will offer for sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, subject to the confirmation of the court, at the Courthouse Door, in Franklin, N. C., on Thursday, the 13th day of May, 1948, at 12:00 o'clock, Noon, the following described real estate:

**BEGINNING** at an iron pipe at the Northeast corner of Wilson Road and Leonard Street, N. 17 W. with East side of Wilson Road 62.73 feet to a stake, the Southwest corner of Lot No. 24; N. 42 E. with the line between Lots No. 23 and 24, 234.08 feet to an iron pipe, the Northeast corner of Lot No. 26; thence S. 49 E. 120.02 feet to an iron pipe, the Northeast corner of

Lot No. 28; thence S. 42 W. with the line between Lots 28 and 29, 175.11 feet to an iron stake, the Southeast corner of Lot No. 28, in the North line of Rhodes Street; thence N. 65-30 W. with North line of Rhodes street 46.44 feet to an iron pipe; thence N. 62-30 W. with North line of Rhodes Street 208.5 feet to the Beginning.

The above being the lands described in a deed from Rebecca S. Harris to G. W. Cornelius, dated December 21, 1945, and recorded in Deed Book N-5, at page 299, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina.

Said land is encumbered, according to said petition, by a deed of trust in the sum of approximately \$1,000, recorded in the Macon County, N. C. Registry in Book 38, page 534, and also by deed of trust in the sum of approximately \$500, recorded in Book 139, page 127, of said Registry.

Said property will be offered for sale free and clear of said encumbrances or subject to encumbrances, all in the discretion of the said trustee in bankruptcy, and, in the event a bid is not received for a sufficient amount to take care of all of the said liens, then the said trustee in bankruptcy reserves the right to release said property to said lienholders.

This the 12th day of April, 1948.

J. CLINTON BROOKSHIRE,  
Trustee in Bankruptcy,  
Franklin, N. C.

A22-2tc-C of C-A29

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of Clara Roper, 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 26 day of April, 1949 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 26 day of April, 1948.

LYMAN ROPER,

Administrator

A29-6tp-J3

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