

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

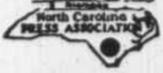
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Obituary notices, cards of thanks, tributes of respect, by individuals, lodges, churches, organizations or societies, will be regarded as advertising and inserted at regular classified advertising rates. Such notices will be marked "adv." in compliance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

Who Is To Blame?

WHO is to blame for the fact that one young Macon County man out of every 25 of draft age cannot even sign his name?

Who is to blame for the further fact that many more of these Macon youths between the ages of 18 and 25 can do no more than sign their names—that they can write nothing else, and can read not at all?

Who is to blame for what these figures indicate—that, if we have so many illiterates among our young men, we must have 250 or 300, or possibly more, among adults of all ages in Macon County?

Who is to blame for this shameful situation that exists, not in China, or India, or some Pacific island, but right here in Macon County?

It would be pleasant if we could point our fingers at some one person or some one agency and say: "The blame lies there". But it isn't as simple as that.

* * *

These young men have themselves, first of all, to blame; because anybody who wants it can get an education today. In most cases, a little energy, a little ambition was all that was needed.

But if we are going to blame six-year olds—or even eighteen-year olds—for lacking the ambition and gumption and energy to go to school, how much more are we going to blame the parents, who presumably have adult heads on their shoulders? To fail to teach a child to read, in this age, is like putting out his eyes or stopping up his ears. Had parents done that, to the bodies of their children, we would have had them in court in short order. But they do that to their children's minds—and we do nothing about it!

This newspaper is to blame for failing, before this, to dig up the facts and inform the public.

The civic clubs and the churches and the P. T. A.'s are to blame for being blind to the situation.

And you and I, as citizens, are to blame for not being good enough citizens to know what was going on in our own neighborhoods, and doing something about it. From no less authority than members of the county board of commissioners comes the statement that non-attendance at school is widespread in Macon County, right now; that there are children of school age in every township who have never "seen the inside of a school."

Have you and I done anything about it? Do we know which children in our own neighborhood never see "the inside of a school"? Have we tried to find out why they are growing up in ignorance? Have we gone to see the duly constituted authorities to try to get some action?

Those are questions most of us would rather not answer.

Those constituted authorities, it is true, are legally responsible. But you and I have a moral responsibility as neighbors, as community leaders, and as citizens whose public opinion usually is translated into action by constituted authority.

* * *

Every man and woman in Macon County must accept a share of the blame for the situation that exists today. And each of us has a share of the responsibility for seeing that it doesn't continue to exist.

It is a responsibility we cannot dodge.

Why It Is Our Duty On November 2

The first Tuesday in November of every fourth year is one of the most significant days in the lives of the people of the United States. It is the time that they are afforded an opportunity that an

increasingly smaller portion of the people of the world are granted—the chance to choose by their vote the executive head of their nation's government.

In the eyes of the rest of the world, this is fast becoming an important symbol of the American way of life.

With this in mind, it is more than just our privilege to go to the polls on November 2 and cast our ballot for the men of our choice—it is our duty.

Today the world is dividing into two camps, the democratic governments vs. the totalitarian states. For our own economic security as well as the peace of the world, it is most important that we get the best government possible.

* * *

Here is where you and I come in. Democracy, to work satisfactorily, must reflect as nearly as possible the will of the majority. There is but one sure way for this will to become known. Every person in this county, who is eligible, should on November 2 go to the polls and vote for the persons who, in their judgment, are best able to fill the various positions, whether it be the President of the United States or county surveyor.

There may be candidates for minor offices whom the average person will know nothing about and in those cases will not have a good opportunity to learn who is best qualified. But, today, with all the facilities of radio, newspapers, and public libraries available, any person can learn the major issues between our national candidates and parties and decide for themselves which seems better qualified to solve our problems.

The strength of democracy comes from the voice of the people. Even its critics admit that. The leaders of the countries which favor a dictatorial form of government believe that it is impossible for this voice of the people to make itself heard. They would like to find our government representing only a minority group; thus leaving a large disgruntled majority that they could promise the moon to.

The coming administration, regardless of party, needs to know if it has the support of the majority of the voters. If large numbers of people stay home, government officials, even if they carry out their campaign pledges, can not be sure of themselves.

Democracy is on trial in the eyes of the world, and the American people owe it to the sacrifices of their forefathers and the happiness of future generations to do their part in making it work by expressing themselves at the polls on November 2.

POETRY CORNER

Conducted by

EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE

Weaverville, N. C.

Sponsored by Asheville Branch, National League of American Pen Women

AWAKE, AMERICA!

Awake from your sleep, America,
Defend your sacred soil!
Still stunned by the fangs of the cobra
You sleep in the python's coil.

You have given your sons and daughters,
You have given the fat of your land;
You have nurtured the greed of the python—
The python has bitten your hand.

You have cast your bread on the waters,
You have given your goods and your toll;
Good-will is not for the python
It knows but the strength of its coil.

Awake from your sleep, America,
Look to your sacred soil
Let not our blood-bought heritage
Become the python's spoil.

GILMER A. JONES

Franklin, N. C.

Others' Opinions

SMOKY PARK PAYS OFF

It is cause for gratification on the part of North Carolina and Tennessee that the Great Smoky Mountains National Park is rapidly increasing in popularity, as indicated by the records for the travel year ended September 30.

The number of persons visiting the park during the last year, 1,468,636, was an increase of 23 per cent over the previous year and the largest number in the history of the park. Unless economic conditions deteriorate sharply, we may anticipate with confidence that the number of visitors to this great park during the ensuing year will be far in excess of a million and a half.

Of course a substantial portion of the visitors were North Carolina and Tennessee residents, but many hundreds of thousands of them came from other states, from Maine to California and Florida. Presumably every state was represented as in previous years. And all of the visitors from other states traversed areas of one or both states outside the park in traveling to and from the great national playground.

All of these hundreds of thousands of visiting people spent money in North Carolina or Tennessee or in both states—many millions of dollars in the aggregate.

Besides, most of them returned home to tell their neighbors and friends of the great attractiveness and the wonders of the Great Smoky park and the surrounding mountain country, where delightful climate and gorgeous scenery combine to make it one of the world's great vacation lands.

The Smoky Mountain National Park is a great asset to the sister states of North Carolina and Tennessee, and even of the nation.

North Carolina invested well when it appropriated some hundreds of thousands of dollars under the administration of the late Governor A. W. McLean as a contribution toward creation of the park. The investment has been repaid many fold in the last 20 years.

—Charlotte Observer

LEGAL ADVERTISING

NOTICE OF SALE NORTH CAROLINA MACON COUNTY

By authority of an order entered by the Superior Court of Macon County on the 27th day of September, 1948, in an action entitled "Gilmer A. Jones, Adm. of the Estate of Robert Scruggs, vs. Addie Scruggs, et al", I will on the 28th day of October, 1948, at 12 o'clock noon at the Court-house door in Franklin, N. C., sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash the following described lands:

The land of which Robert Scruggs died seized and possessed set forth in the following deeds: Joe Gibson to Robert Scruggs, recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County in Book X-3, page 462; Gabriel Stonecipher to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book B-3, page 57; L. H. Penland to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book JJ, page 438; Rufus Upton to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book H-4, page 527; Zeila Wells to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book B-4, page 316; M. N. Angel to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book N-3, page 349; M. N. Angel to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book R-3, page 416; Gabriel Stonecipher to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book V-5, page 47; Gabriel Stonecipher to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book V-3, page 48; Charlie Scruggs to Robert Scruggs, recorded in Book Q-5, page 419. For a more particular description of said land reference is made to the records above referred to and to the petition filed in the above entitled action. This 27th day of September, 1948.

GILMER A. JONES,
Commissioner
O7-4tc-JJ-028

EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of Zeb McClure, 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 21 day of September, 1949, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This the 21 day of September, 1948.

RANSOM LEDFORD,
Executor.
S30-6tp-N4

ADMINISTRATORS NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of Mary Gaston Curtis 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 5 day of October, 1948 or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 5 day of October, 1948.
GILMER A. JONES
Administrator
O14-6tp-N18

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT NOTICE OF SERVING SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY
JEAN BENNETT WARREN

vs.
JAMES MORRIS WARREN

The defendant, James Morris Warren, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, to obtain an absolute divorce on the grounds of two years separation; and the said defendant will further take notice that he is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said county in the Court House in Franklin, N. C., within twenty days from and after the 25th day of November, 1948, and answer or demur to the complaints in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in said complaint.

This 1st day of October, 1948.
J. CLINTON BROOKSHIRE,
Clerk Superior Court
Macon County
North Carolina
O7-4tc-O28

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

NOTICE
NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY
VIRGINIA GRIBBLE

vs.
JOHN B. GRIBBLE

The defendant, John B. Gribble, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, to obtain an absolute divorce from the defendant on the grounds of two years separation; and the said defendant will further take notice that he

is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of the Superior Court of said County in the courthouse in Franklin, N. C., on the 24th day of November, 1948, 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 4th day of October, 1948.

J. CLINTON BROOKSHIRE,
Clerk of the Superior Court
Macon County, North Carolina
O7-4tc-TB-028

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS

NORTH CAROLINA
MACON COUNTY
W. C. HAWKINS

vs.
MILDRED HAWKINS

The defendant, Mildred Hawkins, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County for the purpose of securing an absolute divorce for the plaintiff, W. C. Hawkins.

Said defendant will further take notice that she is required to appear at the office of the Clerk of Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, at the Courthouse in Franklin, North Carolina, on the 1st day of November, 1948, and answer or demur to the complaint in said action, or the plaintiff will apply to the Court for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This 1st day of October, 1948.

J. CLINTON BROOKSHIRE,
Clerk Superior Court.
O7-4tc-JJ-028

National Forest Timber For Sale

Sealed bids will be received by the Forest Supervisor, Franklin, North Carolina, up to and not later than 2:00 P. M., November 15, 1948, and opened immediately thereafter for all live timber marked or designated for cutting located on an area embracing about 1535 acres within the Big Buck Creek Unit, Cullasaja River watershed, Nantahala National Forest, Macon County, North Carolina, estimated to be 815 M feet B. M. more or less of hardwoods and softwoods. No bid of less than \$35.00 per M for black cherry; \$26.00 per M for yellow poplar; \$19.00 per M for ash and red maple; \$18.00 per M for birch, white oak and white pine; \$17.00 per M for northern red oak; \$16.00 per M for basswood and cucumber; \$13.00 per M for yellow pine; \$5.00 per M for chestnut oak and \$4.00 per M for hemlock, black oak, scarlet oak, buckeye, chestnut, cack gum and beech will be considered.

In addition to prices bid for stumpage, a deposit of \$1.00 per M feet for all timber cut will be required for sale area betterment. \$2,000 must be deposited with each bid, to be applied on the purchase price, refunded or retained in part as liquidated damages, according to conditions of sale. The right to reject any and all bids is reserved. Before bids are submitted, full information concerning the timber, the conditions of sale and the submission of bids should be obtained from the Forest Supervisor, Franklin, North Carolina, O14 and O28-2tc

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT NORTH CAROLINA MACON COUNTY

NOTICE

W. B. DOBSON, JR.

vs.

R. J. DOBSON, LILLIAN A. DOBSON, MARY LEE and husband Lee,
MARY ELIZABETH DOBSON and ETHEL ANN DOBSON

The defendants, R. J. Dobson, Lillian A. Dobson, Mary Lee and husband Lee, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County, North Carolina, for the foreclosure of a mortgage; and the 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 15th day of November, 1948, 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 12th day of October, 1948.

J. CLINTON BROOKSHIRE,
Clerk of the Superior Court
Macon County, N. C.
O31-4tc-JJ-311