

# The Franklin Press

AND

## The Highlands Maconian

Published every Thursday by the Franklin Press  
At Franklin, North Carolina

VOL. LXIII

Number Forty nine

WEIMAR JONES

Editor-Publisher

NATIONAL EDITORIAL  
ASSOCIATION  
1948  
Active Member

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

Telephone No. 24

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year	\$2.00
Six Months	\$1.25
Three Months	.75
Single Copy	.06

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.

### Wealth And Progress

TO anyone interested in the South—or interested, for that matter, in the trends in present-day America—an article by Louis Bromfield in the November issue of The Atlantic Monthly will prove stimulating.

Mr. Bromfield, who might be termed the novelist of American farm life, points out that all the old American frontiers are gone, but adds that there is a new frontier—the South. Accordingly, he captions his article, "Go South, Young Man!"

North Carolinians will be particularly interested in his praise of this state's progress:

Of all the Southern states, and for that matter all the forty-eight, no state has shown more progress within the past generation than North Carolina. The progress is not alone economic. Few states have made so rapid an industrial development, and no Southern state has advanced with such speed toward the achievement of the vital industrial-agricultural balance so important to the stabilized prosperity of any region. It was not so long ago that the same poverty and shabbiness which has largely characterized the Deep South since defeat was almost everywhere in evidence in North Carolina. Today the shabby look has largely gone. The farms appear prosperous and well cared for in most areas, and the shabby cabin slums on the fringes of the towns are on their way out. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has become one of the most vigorous cultural centers of the nation.

Mr. Bromfield then proceeds to assign a reason for North Carolina's advances:

It is, I think, indisputably true that culture, social advance, and civilization in general are to a large extent tied to economics, to living standards, and to productivity. So are ignorance, prejudice, and intolerance.

That is a thesis we are hearing on every hand today; prosperity, if we can just have enough of it, will cure all our ills.

The trouble with the churches, we are told, is poverty.

The trouble with our citizenship, is, primarily, poverty.

And especially is this idea advanced about education. If we pay high enough salaries, the best teachers will automatically be attracted to the school room. If we can only have federal aid, the schools will automatically turn out thinking men and women who will lead wholesome lives and be good citizens. Ah, most often heard: Educate people, and they'll make more money.

From that argument, it is but a step to the opposite, but closely related, argument: Educate people so that they can make more money; that is to say, the purpose of education is to enable people to make more money. That argument, though not put quite that crudely, is being advanced by responsible persons in the educational world today.

Intuitively, the average man knows there is something wrong with this line of reasoning. But exactly where is it wrong?

### Babies And Bills

One of the strangest cases to come before an American court, perhaps, was that of an eight-months old baby in Pittsburgh the other day.

The mother told the court she was unable to pay a \$40 bill she owed a baby sitting company, and so she left the baby with them.

Which recalls the story told of a father of an infant born in a hospital in another state. Unable to pay the hospital bill in full, he attempted to arrange for installment payment of the balance. But he was told by the hospital's business manager that the mother and infant could not leave the hospital until the bill was paid in full.

The father disappeared, and some days later the hospital received a message from him, in a distant city: "I hope", he said, "you'll get along fine raising that child of mine".

## POETRY CORNER

Conducted by

EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE

Weaverville, N. C.

Sponsored by Asheville Branch, National League of American Pen Women

### NORTH CAROLINA

I know a very ancient spit of land.  
An old, old sea heaves heavy waves upon it;  
An old, old wind leaps wildly from far skies  
To sculpture fossil'd sand in dunes upon it.  
Of late came man, the savage red-skin first;  
Then—bold, seafaring wights whose early hope  
To found a nation in the wilderness  
Was brought to an untimely end. Their fate  
Was never known, but others came—again  
And yet again, till now the burgeoning land  
Fulfills the vision of the pioneers.  
Yet man was not content to tread the sand  
Nor sail the sea: He made him fragile wings  
And soaring from that same stark, storied strand  
Proclaimed him lord of all the elements—  
The conqueror of water, earth and air.

I know a very ancient fertile plain.  
Its fields are white with cotton in the Fall  
And ripe tobacco crowds tall slatted barns.  
In lofty spiring towers of rugged stone  
The sons and daughters of a sturdy race  
Explore the endless reaches of the mind  
And seek with keen adventurous hardihood  
To meet the challenge of their troubled times.

I know a very ancient range of hills.  
Along their pine-crowned crests the southing wind  
Is never still. They march in serrated ranks  
Away and yet away until the eye  
Of the beholder faints and cannot reach  
That last blue smoky line against the sky.  
Immutable and ageless, awful, grand,  
They still the ravaged, tortured human soul  
And fill it with a deep serenity.

Your ancient spit of land along the sea,  
Your very ancient, rich and fertile plain,  
Your old, old range of far-flung, wind-swept hills  
Are folded in my heart, North Carolina!

MRS. F. B. LEWIS

La Porte, Ind.

## LETTERS

### CAN BE OVERCOME

Dear Mr. Jones:

I was interested in your editorial some weeks back regarding the illiteracy in Macon County. Does the county have free textbooks? If not, that would help. However, work needs to be done on the parents of the children. I am sorry to say that ever since I can remember there has been a strong tendency on the part of the parents to keep children out of school on the slightest excuse—to help pull fodder, gather crops, slight illnesses and colds.

I went to school here and I know.  
Is there no way to enforce their attendance by rigid application of the law? A truant officer who would call after a child is out and require a doctor's certificate in case the parents claim the child is sick?

The matter is so vital I can't help but think about it, and know there is some way to overcome it.

Sincerely yours,  
HELEN HILL NORRIS

Horse Cove and Atlanta,  
November 20, 1948.

### ILLITERACY AND THE SCHOOLS

Dear Mr. Jones:

Could it be possible, that in our consideration of illiteracy in Macon County, we are misdirecting our attention, when we place the blame either on the children, or their parents?

Public education has not always been our privilege; our history is studded with references to the struggle of the under-privileged to have education included as a necessary social development. The affluent have always had their private schools, and the public school only came into existence with the use of the franchise by large masses of the under-privileged.

I sense a tendency on the part of some of those people who have expressed an opinion on this problem, to recommend that the police power of the state be brought to bear, and the truant officer be encouraged to "do his duty." I wonder just what kind of education is associated with an undue use of police power.

A use of this power does not impress me as a reasonable argument.

Why, for instance, is it possible for fifty or sixty children to enter the first grade and only five or six graduate from high school? Are those who do not achieve the satisfaction of a high school diploma to be written off as failures who are stupid, dull and unintelligent? Or have the schools been designed for the few who can attune themselves to the memorization of the printed page? I wonder.

Is it possible that the people have become disillusioned with our secondary schools, and are refusing to bring pressure on those citizens who have failed to conform by sending their children to school?

There are several families in Highlands who have withdrawn their children from the public schools, and entered them in private institutions. I do not know that these children are assured of "better education" by this move on the part of their parents. I do know, however, that these parents did not dislocate their family lives for the satisfaction of decreasing their bank account.

My feeling is that large groups of our Macon County citizens have become dissatisfied with the entire program of secondary education as they see it reflected in their children. These citizens are vaguely aware that the state board of education, and the departments of education in the universities and colleges have assumed responsibility for the education of their children, and have left them only the privilege of paying the taxes necessary to the upkeep of the schools.

It may also be that both citizens with children in schools and those who have failed to enter their children in school, have lost confidence in educational leadership, the latter group having taken the line of least resistance.

Returning to a previous point, it appears to me that a business which loses nine-tenths of its capital every twelve years would soon be in bankruptcy. However, the school records show that from the first grade through the graduating class in high school, approximately that percentage is lost, at least in some locations.

Possibly what Macon County needs, and this goes for many other communities in this great land of ours, is a reappraisal of education. Such a reappraisal should be undertaken by the citizens of the community without the aid of the state department of education, or the assistance of the department of education of the universities and colleges. Education did not begin with this array of super-structure;

these appendages seem to have been acquired over the years.

It seems possible to me that groups of citizens, gathered together under local leadership, and Macon County has its share, might begin the study of education in the county. They might explore the curriculum of the county schools with a view to discovering whether it really stimulates citizenship or merely aids the students in accumulating the necessary credits for graduation from high school. They might be interested in the study of local educational leadership, for the purpose of discovering whether this leadership is prepared to pilot the next generation in our complicated society.

Education is due for a re-appraisal. That appraisal will not be made in the universities and colleges, or by the professors of education. It will have to be made by the people, or fall to be made, if they reject the challenge.

It seems unreasonable to believe that people enjoy a state of illiteracy. To scourge people in this plight seems doubly unreasonable. It may be that they are more realistic than we appreciate. It may be that they have seen the futility of our educational methods, and have decided to give those methods no further aid and comfort. I wonder.

JACK H. WILCOX

Highlands and Knoxville, Tenn.,  
November 20, 1948.

## Others' Opinions

### FARMING, THEN AND NOW

Within recent years there has been an industrial and economic revolution down-on and up-on the farm. The argument over "price supports" has been settled in the affirmative by the Republican and Democratic parties. Farmers will get up to \$2,000,000,000 in the fiscal year ending next June. The "old farm isn't what it used to be," with cotton, wheat, oats, eggs, tobacco, corn, rice, chickens, butter-fat, milk, potatoes, hogs, soybeans, etc., receiving government support.

There's a reason! Innumerable reasons! Perhaps you remember when hundreds of European agricultural scientists came to Washington several years ago and congregated at the Hughes electrical farm a few miles away in Virginia. Every electrical device of that period was at work—on the Hughes farm; in the sheds where the cows were milked; in the chicken coop; the comfortable home—and even electric wires were strung in all directions to illuminate the broad acres.

Electrified farms are everywhere today. Farm machinery has revolutionized millions of acres, lifting the load off the farmers' backs. Look around! Turn off the gas on your automobile—stop, and behold with amazement the triumph in agriculture—a pretty word that broke into farm society, and progressed so rapidly that politicians, and the political parties, put up big money to back the new-fangled notions that promoted farming to Class A as a top American industry.

In short, electricity, good highways, automobiles and tractors led the way and a thousand new methods and improvements lifted the load off the farmer's back. If you have any doubts about all this, get out into the country and behold the modern new buildings on your farm; watch the wheat go-round; listen to the radio, and if you need to talk to folks hundreds of miles away, there is a phone handy by you.

In short; Farm products are what all people depend on and must have. That's why federal support for farm prices will continue.

—Marion (S. C.) Star

### LEGAL ADVERTISING

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as administrator of Robert P. Sanders, 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, 1949 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, 1948.

EDMOND SANDERS  
Administrator

N25-5tp-1tc-D30

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA,  
COUNTY OF MACON.  
MACON COUNTY, Plaintiff.

vs.  
SALLY LEDFORD and  
husband MACK LEDFORD,  
ED GUY and wife  
GUY, and IKE GUY,  
Defendants.

#### NOTICE OF SALE

Under and by virtue of a decree of the Superior Court of Macon County entered in the above entitled action on the 8 day of November, 1948, the undersigned Commissioner will on the 10 day of December, 1948, at 12 o'clock, noon, at the Courthouse door in Macon County, North Carolina, sell to the highest bidder for cash the

following described real estate:

Beginning at a poplar at the spring and runs S 88 W 36 poles to a large white oak; then S 2 W 18 poles to a stake in the old Angel line; then N 88 E 36 poles to a chestnut; then 18 poles to the beginning, containing 18 acres, more or less; being the land conveyed to Anna Guy by Rhoda Thomas in deed dated October 28, 1930, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, in Book U-4 of Deeds, page 474.

This, the 9 day of November, 1948.

R. S. JONES  
Commissioner.

N18-4tc-JJ-D9

#### EXECUTRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as executrix of J. E. Calloway, deceased, late 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 October, 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 October, 1948.

JULIA E. CALLOWAY  
Executrix

O28-6tp-D2

# 12 FULL GLASSES

## IN THIS SIX-BOTTLE CARTON!

—You Can't Buy  
a Better Value

VALUE 30¢—NOW ONLY

Five Cents  
Per Bottle  
Low than 5¢  
a Bottle When  
You Buy Six  
at a Time!  
(In 12-oz.  
bottles—  
72 oz.)

# 25¢



NO FINER COLA AT ANY PRICE!

Bottled by: Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of Bryson City  
Under appointment from Pepsi-Cola Company, N. Y.