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### Adventures In Fun

Take a little boy to the creek and order him to dam the stream. Because he is doing it under compulsion, he'll find the work drudgery, and he'll hate the task and make a poor job of it. But let him go to the stream of his own accord and build the dam because he wants to, and he'll work hard and do a top-notch job—for fun. The end of the day will find something accomplished, and a tired but very happy little boy.

It is unfortunate that our complex civilization requires most of us to spend a large share of our lives doing tasks because we must. As a result, life is apt to become barren and uninteresting. Adults, as well as children, need fun.

One solution, of course, is to make our jobs fun. For most of us, however, there is so much compulsion about our everyday work that it is — well, work.

So, if we are to have some fun in life, we must do something we do not have to do, preferably something we have no hope of making money out of. Doing it just for the fun of it, we'll do it exceptionally well. And there is no greater satisfaction than doing something we want to do and feeling, when we're through, that we've accomplished something. Fortunately, a shorter work day provides the leisure for such adventures in fun.

That's exactly what the Highlands Community Theatre players are doing. They are having a lot of fun with their plays, and because it is fun, they work hard and do an excellent job.

Projects like this greatly enrich their communities. Even more important, they give zest to the lives of those who participate in them. We need more of them; we badly need something of the kind in Franklin.

### Contagious, Too

Franklin, as nearly everybody will agree, is just plain dirty. It has been dirty a long time—so long that most of us have ceased to see how untidy it really is.

Franklin needs a lot of policing up, as they say in the army.

And cleanliness not only is next to godliness—it also is contagious. Clean up one spot, and that will call attention to the unkempt appearance of other spots.

A good place to start might be our streets and back alleys.

Franklin can have clean streets. It can have as clean streets as any town anywhere. But it cannot have them until two things happen. First, people must want clean streets. Second, they must want them badly enough to do something about it.

A little more water, a little soap, a little scrubbing would do wonders. It's high time they were applied.

Put all the water and scrubbing in the world won't keep our streets clean as long as business people dump their trash out for the wind to scatter, and as long as people on the sidewalk carelessly throw bits of paper on the pavement.

People have been seen to do just that while they were in the act of leaning on one of the trash containers placed at convenient intervals along Main street!

### It's Funny . . .

Adopting a baby is becoming more and more difficult. Laws, plus welfare agencies, are adding more and more red tape. It almost has come to the point that a childless couple must present birth certificates to prove they are the proper age to become parents, temperature charts to prove they are in good health, and a financial balance sheet to prove they are in position to give the adopted baby the advantages welfare agencies consider desirable.

All of which may be merely erring on the side of being careful.

But why all the partiality to babies who are to be adopted? No set of case workers and psychiatrists and financial experts checks on prospective blood parents to make sure their babies will have a fair chance in life.

## Letters

### WARNING FROM VIRGINIA

Dear Editor:

As I am still a Tar Heel, at heart, I feel it my duty to warn you farmers of Franklin just how they are growing corn up here in Virginia. I do this because I want to see old North Carolina win this corn war between the two states.

S. L. KINSLAND

1015 Bank Street,  
Hopewell, Va.

(NOTE: Mr. Kinsland attached to his letter a newspaper clipping with an illustration of what appears to be a truck, loaded with ears of corn. Placed lengthwise on the truck, the ears appear to reach from one end of the truck to the other. While Tar Heels will be grateful to Mr. Kinsland for his warning, Virginia newspapers are wasting their time if they think they can bluff corn growers in this state with trick photography.—Editor.)

### PLEASED WITH RECEPTION

Mr. Jones:

It was my pleasure to appear in Franklin Monday night (July 11) in the Highlands Community Theatre production of "Our Town". The audience that evening was one that delights an actor—attentive and responsive! Small, yes—but one, we felt, that thoroughly enjoyed our effort. Franklin will long be remembered by the cast.

I hope on subsequent visits of the H. C. T. to your town that the audiences will be larger. The drama should reach more people. That is our duty—a job for the actor and the sponsor. We must remember that "live actors" on stage is a commodity that has been withdrawn from the market for some time—a new item to many people. We must sell it! A customer once, generally means a permanent one. Let's work toward this! Again thanks for the splendid reception of "Our Town" in your town.

Sincerely,

W. J. REECE.

Atlanta, Ga.

### HIGHLANDS AND ITS WORKERS

Dear Editor:

It is just natural for me to follow with interest the improvements of our town. Having been a resident of Highlands all my life, I have seen it grow and develop in modern ways.

We have modern hotels, cafes, stores, theatre, filling stations, art galleries, gift shops, and as good a school system, according to the way the pupils from this school rate when they go to other schools and colleges, as we could expect to have with our present buildings and funds.

All these improvements, which have been made in the last few years, make me glad to be a citizen of our dear old town, but the point I wish to see put over is, that our methods of dealing with labor are in no wise modern, nor in keeping with other towns in Western North Carolina.

You ask why? Because the stores here do not give their help half-day off each week. Not only the stores, but other places of business do not seem to have any feeling for their hired help. It seems as if they say: "We want you for what you can do, not because you are valuable as a helper to increase our businesses, and develop to a farther point our mountain interests."

Strange as it may seem, even nationally observed holidays are scarcely noticed in Highlands.

Come on Highlands, let's drop some of our greed and follow the example set by our summer people, who give their colored help an afternoon off each week, and of our neighboring towns which take off one afternoon each week.

Let's hear from some of the clerks and business men along this line.

Yours ever,

EDD HENRY.

Highlands, N. C.

### Yesterday and Tomorrow

By GILMER A. JONES

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The paper below was read by Mr. Jones, in his capacity as president of the Macon County Historical Society, at last Friday night's presentation of awards in the society's historical contest.)

Today when so much accent is being placed upon youth, the question is frequently asked, "Of what possible value is an organization which has as its sole purpose the preservation of facts that are buried in the past and accounts of the lives of people who are not living?" There is an idea that delving into the past is a pastime engaged in only by those whose lives are behind them, and that a study of past events and of the lives of persons since dead can be of no value whatever to those who look forward instead of backward.

However, to overlook the study of past happenings and people—to overlook the study of history—simply means to forget our traditions and philosophy of living, our religion, and to cast aside our ideals.

While we would not deprive older people of the pleasure they may get from recounting the events of the past, and living again the days of their youth, the study of history is primarily for the development of youth and probably has more to do with youth's development than any other subject. The greatest men and women of all time have, at different periods of their lives, taken some one as their ideal; have followed the pattern laid down by some person who has gone before them.

What successful man has not in his youth, as he walked between the handles of the plow or watched his fishing line from the banks of some stream, dreamed that he would some day follow in the steps of Lincoln, or Lee, or Patrick Henry, or Nathan Hale? And what young woman has not had dreams of being a Florence Nightingale, a Jennie Lind, or Ethel Barrymore? Yet the history of Macon County has been rich in men and women, the pattern of whose lives any parent might well ask their children to follow. What more profound thinker has ever lived than George W. Truett, who, though born in Clay County, was educated in the schools of Macon? What greater educators (and mental giants) than James T. Nolen and Elizabeth Kelly? There has been no greater hero in the history of any country than our own Charles Trotter, who, when his ship went down, gave his place on a raft to others and swam away. And Macon County is the mother of at least one governor, Governor Ammons, of Colorado; of one whose rank was just below that of Cabinet Member, Sam L. Rogers; the first President of the North Carolina Branch of the American College of Surgeons, Dr. S. H. Lyle. And this is only a beginning of our roster of great men and women—stars to which our youth might well hitch their wagons.

It is to the task of preserving the records of the lives of such as these for the benefit of the youth of the county, both present and future, that the Macon County Historical Society is dedicated.

### Others' Opinions

#### FALSE ALARM

Last week many citizens were delighted to hear Senator George of Georgia and our own Senator Maybank had turned to economy and were going to introduce a bill to save us three billion dollars and keep our country from going broke. But this week we find our Senator Maybank, our Senator Johnston, and all our congressmen, together with the Edgar A. Brown of Barnwell, ballyhooing a new dam on the Savannah at a mere fifty million dollars. To give such a handout to all the other states, as of course would be necessary, would require a trifling five billion extra. So there's our three billion saving

and a glimmer, and poor Uncle Sam deeper in the gloom of debt. By the way, isn't that Edgar A. Brown up in Washington begging for the Hartwell dam, the same Edgar A. Brown who was begging the state legislature to economize by taking the 12th grade away from our poor school kids?—Easley (S. C.) Progress.

### OUR RESPONSIBILITY

America was built on pastoral progress. Sure, the powerful-appearing things are done in the massed areas. But the soul is in the small towns and on the rural fields.

There is no denying that if America's rural residents lose democracy—if America's grassroots rot—there will be no "land of the free and home of the brave" in the future.—Publishers' Auxiliary.

### RULE BY MINORITY?

We are in danger of losing democracy by default in the United States if we continue to disregard the responsibility of the use of the ballot. There is a shocking shrinkage in the total number of votes cast in this country as indicated by the figures over a period of years.

In 1896 there were approximately 83 out of every 100 eligible voters who went to the polls and cast their preference for either William Jennings Bryan or William McKinley. In that year, 17,000,000 Americans were of voting age. Twenty years later when Woodrow Wilson defeated Charles Evans Hughes for the Presidency, almost 72 per cent of the eligible voters exercised their franchise. It is estimated that in 1916, there were 26,000,000 individuals eligible to vote.

In 1936 there were 80,000,000 eligible voters in this country and 57 out of every 100 cast their votes for either Franklin Roosevelt or Alfred Landon. Twelve years later, in the election of last November between President Truman and Governor Dewey, it is believed that only approximately 51 out of every 100 eligible voters went to the polls. There were about 96,000,000 potential voters in the country.

This definite downward trend in voter participation is a clear-cut challenge to citizens, regardless of party. Why do people fail to vote? Thoughtful men and women must determine the answers because a failure to do so may conceivably find our free elections turning into a rule by the minority instead of the majority.

It appears that the American people are not participating to the extent that voters are in England, Canada, Italy, and France. In recent elections in Australia and New Zealand, 95 per cent of the eligible voters in those countries expressed themselves. In the 1948 election in Korea, 90 per cent of the registered men and women were at the polls.—Excerpts from an address by Jennings Randolph, assistant to the president of Capital Airlines, as quoted by We The People.

### FOR A BETTER SUMMERTIME

Along with the delightful things that the "good old summer time" brings, and perhaps just to keep it from being altogether perfect, there are a few disagreeable things scattered around. Mosquitoes and flies, praise be, seem to be getting scarcer, due no doubt to the use of DDT, one of the most wonderful discoveries of the war period. Here at The News-Herald office we have been able to dispense with screen doors, simply by using a spray of DDT solution occasionally. It truly works wonders in getting rid of flies.

If someone would discover a sure vaccination against poison oak or poison ivy—I understand there is one that is effective in perhaps fifty per cent of the cases—and blister from sunburn (there are lotions, too, which will partially prevent or ease sun burning) there would not be many complaints left about what summertime offers.

The Hickory Record "arises to remark" that among the real summer pests there is still the "chigger"—and there is no gainsaying that observation. One thing for which the editor of The Record expresses gratitude is that at least we have made real progress in the spelling of the name of this pest, if in no other direction. Remember how you used to get caught when asked to spell "chigger"—it was once "chigre" or "chigree". Now the modern dictionaries don't even list the latter and "chigger" is accepted as the correct spelling. Red bug is a simpler name.

Recently a number of North Carolina papers have written on the subject of "chiggers" as a result of the report in the Duke News Service on a close study made of the "chigger" or red bug. There are, this authority has found, several varieties of red bugs.

The Hickory Record recommends as one of the best means of escaping the after-effects of picnicking and chiggers is the use of plenty of strong soap in a bath as soon as possible after returning.

Few who have had experience with chiggers, will rise to dispute the Rocky Mount Telegram, in its assertion that for the size of them, the tiny red bugs, or chiggers, are the world's most effective nuisances.—Miss Beatrice Cobb in Morganton News-Herald.

### A THINKING MAN

Last November's election sent to the United States senate a Democrat whom Washington political observers already predict will become one of the great men of the nation.

He is Paul Douglas of Illinois, economist and college professor who won a 400,000-vote victory over his Republican opponent.

Douglas is the same man who became a marine private at the age of 50 and came back as a lieutenant colonel with an arm shattered by machine-gun fire on Okinawa.

Senator Douglas has proved that he is a thinking man.

"I don't try to be different and I don't make eccentricity a pose," he argues. "But I decide, by myself, what is the liberal viewpoint, which means taking each issue on its own merits and its own standing under my standards."

Mr. Douglas has some concrete ideas, too. He wants to first "fry out the fat" in the federal pay roll. He says two factors make excessive staffing of government agencies "inevitable."

"First," he points out, "administrators of government agencies do not pay the bills. That tends to make them careless and not so critical and economy-minded as a private businessman."

"Secondly, although it is not written in the formal Civil Service rules, it has become a standard to base the rank and pay of a government executive on the number of men he has working under him. That is a direct invitation to expand the payroll and become more important."

Amen, Brother Douglas!

Senator Douglas believes that every federal department is at least 10 per cent overstaffed. He adds that "my every experience in the military and elsewhere has demonstrated that two per cent on every pay roll are sluggards."

He also has the answer.

"First fire the loafers," says Douglas. "That is an obligation which must be impressed on department heads and, if necessary, we should ease up on Civil Service regulations to make such discharges easy. I have entire sympathy, with the theory of job-securing, but I also believe in worker incentive and that, in government, securing has been allowed to upset incentive."

"Second, for two or three years we should leave empty some of the federal positions that become vacant. Each year about three per cent of the federal employes are separated by death or retirement and 22 per cent more by voluntary departure. Use of those situations alone would provide a quick, painless route for payroll cutting."

In Senator Douglas the nation has found a rare gem. We haven't heard such sound philosophy expressed in many a day or many a year.

The country needs more like him!—Dunn Dispatch.

## LEGAL ADVERTISING

### EXECUTOR'S NOTICE

Having qualified as executor of Mrs. Laura (W. G.) Wilkie, 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 June, 1950, 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 June, 1949.  
J. H. STOCKTON,  
Executor.

J16-6tc-Jly20

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

#### NOTICE OF SUMMONS

NORTH CAROLINA  
MACON COUNTY  
G. W. (BUCK) HOLT

vs.  
CARRIE HOLT  
The defendant, Carrie Holt, 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, G. W. (Buck) Holt.

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 28th day of July, 1949, 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 the 27th day of June, 1949.

J. CLINTON BROOKSHIRE,  
Clerk Superior Court.  
J30-4tc-JJ-Jly 21

### NOTICE OF SALE

NORTH CAROLINA  
MACON COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in a certain deed of trust executed by E. C. Wood and his wife, Mamie Wood, dated the 7th day of June, 1947, and recorded in Book No. 40 at page 191, in the Office of the Register of Deeds of Macon County, North Carolina, default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness thereby secured, and said deed of trust being by the terms thereof subject to foreclosure, and the holder of the indebtedness thereby secured having requested foreclosure thereof, the undersigned Trustee will offer for sale and sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash at the Courthouse door in Franklin, Macon County, North Carolina, at 12:00 o'clock noon, on Monday, the 1st day of August, 1949, the property conveyed in said deed of trust, the same lying and being in Highlands Township, Macon County, North Carolina, and more particularly described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stake on the East bank of the Short-off Road in the South line of C. L. Wood's property, said stake being situated South 74 deg. 30 min. West 352 feet from the Southeast corner of C. L. Wood's property; runs thence, with the East bank of said Shortoff Road, North 35 deg. 15 min. West 152 feet to a hemlock; thence North 74 deg. 30 min. East 290 feet to a stake; thence South 35 deg. 15 min. East 152 feet to a stone in the South line of C. L. Wood's property; thence, with said line, South 74 deg. 30 min. West 290 feet to the BEGINNING, containing one (1) acre, more or less. This being the same land described in the deed from C. L. Wood and wife, Sarah Wood, to E. C. Wood and wife, Mamie Wood, dated 1 June, 1940, and recorded in Deed Book E-5, page 366, Records of Macon County, North Carolina.

This sale will be made subject to all outstanding unpaid taxes. This the 28th day of June, 1949.

J. H. STOCKTON,  
Trustee

J17-4tc-J&S-Jly28

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