

# The Franklin Press

and

## The Highlands Marionian

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### Christmas And Firecrackers

THIS Christmas season, unless it is different from those in the past, will be marked by the widespread use of firecrackers in Macon County.

Yet there are several good reasons why that should not be true.

In the first place, Christmas is the wrong time for firecrackers. Firecrackers might have been appropriate last week, in observance of Armistice Day, or last July in observance of Independence Day, but they do not fit in with the spirit of Christmas. Most of us would not approve if a church were used for a carnival, or if a square dance were given at a funeral. Yet it is just as inappropriate to hail the birth of the Prince of Peace with the burst of cannon crackers. To so observe Christmas betrays, if not ignorance, at least thoughtlessness.

The second reason why there should be no firecrackers here this Christmas is that it is in clear violation of the law. The law forbids the firing, or even the possession, of pyrotechnics equally with their manufacture or sale in this state.

A 1947 act of the general assembly provides that "it shall be unlawful for any individual, firm, partnership, or corporation to manufacture, purchase, sell, deal in, transport, possess, receive, advertise, use or cause to be discharged any pyrotechnics of any description whatsoever within the State of North Carolina", and provides that violation is a misdemeanor, punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both. The sole exception is in the case of public exhibitions, such as fairs, where experts are in charge and written authority has been previously obtained from the board of county commissioners.

If law enforcement officers here want to eliminate firecrackers, they have abundant law under which to act.

The third objection to firecrackers is that they endanger both life and property. It took a fire-worship store fire, in which four or five persons lost their lives several years ago, to awaken Asheville to the danger. Must we have a tragedy here before we wake up and protect ourselves?

### It Can Happen Again

Everybody is pleased, of course, that the high school athletic tangle that ruled Franklin out of the Smoky Mountain conference has been sufficiently untangled for Franklin High to resume its place in the conference. Those responsible—Franklin school officials, interested Franklin citizens, and the coaches at the other schools in the conference—are to be congratulated on getting the differences ironed out.

Just because the mess has been cleaned up temporarily, however, is no reason for the people of this Southwestern North Carolina region to forget that it grew out of a situation that is neither healthy nor sensible—and that, unless there are reforms, it can happen again, to Franklin or some other school.

It doesn't make sense, and it certainly isn't right, for a bare majority of the hired coaches at other schools in the conference to hold the virtual power and life and death over high school athletics at Franklin, or at any other school. The fact that Franklin undeniably was in the wrong in this particular case in no wise lessens the wrongness of the set-up.

Somebody has to run the show, of course. But the coaches are not the people to run it. High school athletics belongs to the public, the parents, and the players, and their representatives should be in control.

### Bouquets

It always has been true that Macon County had reason to be proud of many of its young people. And as the young folk in this community are given better opportunities, better training, and more encouragement, they do a better and better job.

Nowhere can we get bigger dividends than we receive from money and time and encouragement spent for the development of Young Macon County.

This month already has brought occasions for a number of bouquets to our young people:

To Macon County FFA and 4-H boys for the fine showing they made at the West North Carolina Fat Stock show. They are learning in the best possible

way that good stock and good care pay.

To Donald Brown, boys' district winner, and Miss Oubella Cabe, girls' county winner, in the Better Methods contest. These young people are showing their elders how to do the same old chores better, or with less effort, or both.

To James C. Horsley, who will be graduated next spring from the U. S. Military Academy—a high honor in itself—for his promotion to the rank of cadet sergeant at West Point.

And to the members of Franklin's high school football team and the school band for their progress this fall. The football youngsters haven't always won, but they have fought hard, and they have played a clean game. And the members of the band have made unusual progress under extremely difficult circumstances.

When you and I look at something, do we see what is there? Usually not. We see only what we are looking for; that is, what we want to see.

World peace might be cheap at any price. But it is one of the paradoxes of life that we must get it cheaper than that, or not at all.

## Letters

### TITHING, FREEDOM, LAWLESSNESS

Dear Mr. Jones:

A letter was printed in the November 3 issue of The Franklin Press on the subject of "Tithing and the New Testament". A question was raised and a reply was invited. In this letter I shall attempt to answer that question.

"If the Old Testament plan of tithing was to be continued in the New Testament church, how are we to account for the fact that they (Jesus and the apostles) never preached it? and that there is no record of where any of the New Testament churches ever practiced tithing?" That is the question.

As far as I can discern the New Testament does not explicitly teach that men ought to tithe, and I find no record to indicate that those early churches continued in the practice, but I am convinced that there is much more to be considered before a fair conclusion can be reached.

In the first place, the tithe is a part of the law of God. (Lev. 27:30-34.) Jesus did not say anything specifically about the tithe, but He did give some very clear teaching concerning the law of God. Consider the words of Jesus: "Think not that I come to destroy the law, or the prophets; I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." The teaching of the New Testament does not destroy the teaching of the Old Testament, it is only a fulfillment of it. It is true that the New Testament does not explicitly teach that Christians ought to tithe, but it is also true that there is no teaching to the effect that tithing should not be continued. According to the words of Jesus, the laws of God stand until God repeals them. Some laws God changed and some He did not. There is no record that God changed the law of the tithe, so, in my opinion, it still stands.

The New Testament is not silent on the subject of the tithe. In the seventh chapter of the Letter to the Hebrews the idea of tithing is quite prominent. The reference there is to an incident which took place long before the law was given to Moses. You will remember that when Abraham was returning from the rescue of Lot he paid tithes to a priest-king named Melchisedec. The author of Hebrews points out that the entire chosen race, through Abraham their progenitor, paid tithes to this man, not according to the law, but outside of the law. Under the law, the Levites received the tithes, but the Levites themselves, through Abraham, recognized the superiority of Melchisedec by giving tithes to him. Now then, according to the teaching of the New Testament, this Melchisedec was the prototype of Christ. If it was right that all of God's chosen people should give tithes to a man who was but a type of Christ, then it seems clear that the implicit teaching of this New Testament passage is that we can do no less than give the tithe, because we know the true Priest-King and not a mere type of Him.

There is one more respect in which this matter should be considered. The one great difference between our times and the times of the Old Testament is that we are now under grace and are no longer bound by the laws. Understand this, however, there is a great difference between freedom from the law and lawlessness. Our salvation does not depend on our keeping of the law. That is freedom from law. But to ignore the commandments which God gave to His people of old is lawlessness. You do not have to pay one tenth of your income to God in order to go to heaven, but even if God had repealed the law of the tithe, (and it seems evident that He has not) how could we find it in our hearts to give Him any less than did those people who lived under the law?

Why did God give no specific teaching on tithing in the New Testament? It is not necessary for men to question God's reasons for doing things, but on this particular subject I would venture this suggestion: God made the law of the tithe, the law was good, He did not change it, and He did not deem repetition of it necessary.

HOYT EVANS.

Franklin, N. C.

## Others' Opinions

### WHERE DO YOU FIT?

Chester Wells, of Grand Rapids, in an address the other night before the Iron Mountain-Kingsford chamber of commerce, classified the average male citizen into three groups: Minute-men; wait-a-minute men and last-minute men. Each of the three is immediately recognizable.

The minute-man is the fellow who quickly volunteers, or accepts when asked, for his full part in civic affairs and community betterment. The wait-a-minute man, although well-intentioned, puts it off until someone else has done the greater part of the job, and the last-minute man does nothing about it, by intent and purpose.

Leaders who have been close to the picture for the past several years could immediately bracket the business and professional men of this community within these three groups. The "types" are familiar. In other terms they could be called the "do-ers," the "will-doers" and the "never-doers." None of us, perhaps, is completely in the clear on this matter of community enterprise, and most of us know in our own minds that we are not doing our share.

Why do we seek out the busy men when we want a job done? Because no matter how busy they are, they invariably find time to crowd one more worthwhile activity into their schedule, as a matter of civic responsibility. They may do it for one of two principal reasons: Either because they recognize that their personal welfare is closely tied to the economy of the community, or that, in complete wholeheartedness, they—as good citizens—have a civic obligation to fulfill.

Others go blithely along, year after year, consistently rejecting every appeal for help, no matter how worthy, while high-handedly assuming that they owe nothing whatever in the

## OUR DEMOCRACY

—by Mat

### Ship shape

SHIP SHAPE, IN THE NAUTICAL SENSE, MEANS EVERYTHING TRIM AND ORDERLY. TO THE SHIP'S CAPTAIN, IT MEANS AS WELL, THAT TO THE BEST OF HIS ABILITY, HIS SHIP AND ALIEN BOARD, HIS CARGO, THE PROFITS OF HIS VOYAGE, HAVE BEEN MADE SECURE AGAINST ANY EMERGENCY.



KEEPING OUR FINANCIAL AFFAIRS "SHIP SHAPE," INVOLVES CARE IN PLANNING OUR SPENDING—INITIATIVE AND FIRM DETERMINATION IN PROVIDING FOR THE FUTURE OF OUR FAMILIES THROUGH LIFE INSURANCE AND REGULAR SAVINGS.

way of public service or responsibility. Also, they clearly indicate by their attitude that they don't give a whoop what happens as long as they get theirs. They are perfectly content to let the other fellow do it as long as they share proportionately in the benefits.

The "do-ers" are the bulwark of the community. They keep it alive. The "will-doers" are fooling nobody but themselves, and the "never-doers" are a drug on the market. They are the men of small minds—selfish, self-centered and concerned only with the narrow circle in which they operate. They want no monuments, and consequently leave none.

This community will live on the structure of its "do-ers." It can also die on the promises of its "will-doers" and the complete inactivity of its "never-doers."

Where do you fit?—Iron Mountain (Mich.) News.

### GIVE EACH DRIVER A FLAG

If the same thing were applied to automobile drivers in South Carolina, reckless driving and accidents would be reduced overnight. Here's our idea:

Whenever a driver is issued a license, he would be given a small flag, which he would be required to display on the radiator of any automobile which he operated. The flag, on receipt, would be solid blue in color.

Every time a driver was involved in an accident, he would be required to have a red "X" sewed on his flag. Every time he was convicted of speeding or reckless driving, a white "X" would be added to the flag.

For every three years that he operated his car without an accident or without being arrested, a gold star would be sewed on the flag.

Careful records would be kept by the highway department of each driver's personal record. Any driver found operating a car without the correct insignia on his flag would be prosecuted.

We pass the idea along to the highway department without charge. It would be nice though if, in return, the highway department would accept our personal check, instead of a money order, when we apply for license plates next year.—Charleston News and Courier.

### CATALOGUE STUDY

I am winding up my study of catalogues. It is about that time when lists are made of what I want to order and my money is sent away from the home territory to buy the things I want. Why doesn't somebody go into the propagating business close home—plant, flower, and tree breeding, of course? My orders go to Maryland, New Jersey, Tennessee, Alabama, Texas, and Louisiana, but it isn't because of choice that I order from catalogues and send my money way off yonder. Believe me, if I could get the product in eastern North Carolina, you wouldn't be reading about my catalogue ordering. Nothing I like better on a rainy day, or even on a fair-weather one, than looking at pictures so appetizingly illustrated in color—the ones you see in fruit tree, seed, flower, and evergreen shrubbery catalogue advertising. It is an interesting and time-consuming relaxation project.—Roy Parker in Hertford County Herald.

### DO YOU SMOKE IN BED?

Smoking in bed is one of the most prolific causes of fire—particularly fire which results in serious personal injury and loss of life. Those who have the habit would do well to read a list of "Instructions to Guests Preparing to Smoke in Bed" which has been posted in the rooms of a New York hotel. It says:

"1. Call the office and notify the management where you wish your remains sent.

"2. Notify guests in adjoining rooms of your intention of endangering their lives, so that they make take necessary precautions to protect themselves.

"3. Go to the corridor and locate the nearest fire escape, so that if you are fortunate enough to escape your room, you may reach safety.

"4. Now sit down and think how foolish it is for you to take this risk—you may enjoy your smoke while thinking it over.

"Business may be good, but we do not have guests to burn, so please—Help Us to Protect You."

Those words cover a lethally serious problem. And what is true of hotels is equally true of the home. Remember these rules next time you feel like smoking in bed.—Morganton News-Herald.

Think before you speak. Pronounce not imperfectly nor bring out your words too hastily, but orderly and distinctly. —Washington.

### Rankin, On Army Duty in Japan, Is Transferred

Cpl. William Rankin, 29, so of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rankin of Franklin, Route 4, recently has been transferred from the First Cavalry Division Artillery, Military Police at Camp Drew Koizumi, Japan, to Headquarters Battery, 82nd Field Artillery Battalion, First Cavalry Division Artillery, according to an army dispatch received here. He is serving with the battery as a cook.

Cpl. Rankin has been serving with the army since September 1942. During the last war he served in the European Theater of Operations, and seen service in England, France, Belgium and Germany. He sailed for his present tour of duty June 4, 1948, to serve with the Occupation Forces in Japan.

### NORTH CAROLINA MACON COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the power of sale vested in the undersigned trustee by a deed of trust executed by B. H. Baldwin and wife Frances Baldwin to Gilmer A. Jones, trustee dated the 30th day of January, 1948, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book No. 42, page 67, said deed of trust having been executed to secure certain indebtedness therein set forth, and default in the payment of said indebtedness having been made, I will on Friday, the 9th day of December, 1949, at 12 o'clock noon, at the courthouse door in Franklin, North Carolina, sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described land:

All the lands described in a deed from Ben Thwaite and Jess'e Thwaite to B. H. Baldwin, said deed bearing date of the 29th day of June, 1945, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book N-5 of Deeds, Page 300. EXCEPT THEREFROM all the lands described in the following deeds:

1. Deed from B. H. Baldwin and wife to Mrs. Marie McComb Cook, said deed bearing date of 18th day of July, 1946, and registered in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, in Book 0-5 of Deeds, page 182.

2. Deed from B. H. Baldwin and wife to Margaret Roberts and Mary Roberts, said deed bearing date of 11th day of July, 1947, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, in Book R-5 of Deeds, page 538.

3. Deed from Bert H. Baldwin and wife to J. M. Gokay, said deed bearing date of 25th day of July, 1946, and registered in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, in Book P-5 of Deeds, page 182.

This the 9th day of November, 1949.

GILMER A. JONES, Trustee.

N17-4tc-JJ-D8

### ADMINISTRATRIX NOTICE

Having qualified as administratrix of Harold Bradley, 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 25 day of October, 1950, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 25 day of October, 1949.  
RUBY BRADLEY,  
Administratrix.

O27-6tc-D1



## BINGO

### At Old Legion Hall

7:30  
Every Tuesday Night

★  
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V. F. W.

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NO ADMISSION CHARGE

10c Per Game

