

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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Encore

It's happened again—the second time within a week!

'Sunday's operetta, like the band concert the Sunday before, was a credit to this community; would have been a credit to any community.

Bouquets are due the director, Mr. S. F. (Sammy) Beck, for a difficult job well done; to the more than 60 young people participating, who added to notable talent a lot of hard work; and to the community for its support—again last Sunday the young people played to a capacity audience that was highly appreciative.

A Clean Town Never Decays

"A clean tooth never decays", it is said.

However that may be, surely it is true that—

A clean town never decays.

Most of us, as a matter of common, ordinary decency, brush our teeth regularly. This week—Franklin Clean-up Week—let's brush our town.

Let's scrub (not just pour a little water on) our streets; nothing but scrubbing will get them clean.

Let's manicure our alleys and vacant lots.

Let's get rid of trash and junk not only where they show, but from cellars and attics and closets.

Let's get our backyards as clean as our front yards are.

And then let's polish our front yards till they shine!

With everybody working, such a change can be made in Franklin this week that none of us would know it for the same town.

One Or The Other

Recently, in recent decades, has the game of national politics been played more intently than it is today. The President of the United is on a purely political cross-country junket. And many members of both political parties in congress for many months have quite openly been speaking and voting purely for political effect.

That, perhaps, is to be expected in normal times. But these are hardly normal times. This is a time, our military leaders tell us, when the United States faces an international crisis so grave as to make the most important domestic issue puny by comparison.

Now one of two things is true.

Either the crisis is not grave. In that case, the President, as their superior, and congress, as their paymaster, should silence these military leaders.

Or it is grave. And in that case, the President and many members of congress are acting like irresponsible children.

Comments On A Letter

Elsewhere on this page appears a letter concerning the election of a town clerk by the Franklin board of aldermen at its recent meeting.

The Press is glad to publish this letter, since it believes that one of the functions of a community newspaper is to serve as a forum for the discussion of public affairs; the more such discussion there is, the better for the community.

The letter, it seems to us, deserves comment.

It is not for this newspaper to say whether the board did or did not make the wisest choice among the eight applicants for the position. So far as we know, all eight were qualified, and of course nothing that is said here is meant as a reflection on the character or the ability of any applicant.

Two points, however, seem worth making:

1. The editor of this newspaper has attended the meetings of the Franklin board, month after month, and thus has had a good opportunity to observe the way the board works. While not always in agreement with decisions of the board, it is his observation that Franklin's mayor and aldermen are exceptionally forward-looking, hard working, thoroughly conscientious public servants. They do not hesitate to work far into the night, when necessary, and their attitude is consistently that of men deeply interested in the community's welfare.

2. The question of who would work cheapest, in filling this or any other public position, should not be the paramount consideration. Generally speak-

ing, we get just about what we pay for, and too often, in getting our public business done, we pay a cheap price—and get a cheap job. We probably should get a lot more for our money, from our public officials, if the salaries were higher, rather than lower.

The School Board Candidates

Remarking on the heavy responsibility that rests upon members of the county board of education, this column early in March expressed the hope that the voters in the May 27 primary would be given a wide choice of candidates from which to select the five to serve on this important board.

The voters will have a wide choice—there are 11 candidates entered in the Democratic primary—from which to make their selections. The 11 are C. Gordon Moore, Fred A. Edwards, J. F. Browning, Walter Gibson, and Bob Sloan, members of the present board, T. T. Love, J. C. Sorrells, Charles W. Nolen, Robert B. DuPree, Mrs. Betty Leach Alexander, and Ray E. Norton.

At the same time certain qualifications for membership were suggested:

That the board should contain at least one member who has a child or children attending the public schools of the county—none of the present board has; that it should contain at least one woman—all the present members are men; and that it would be desirable for the membership to be geographically distributed over the county—three of the five members of the present board live in Franklin township.

As the primary nears, it is interesting to check the candidate list against those general qualifications.

Of the 11 in the race, four—Mr. Nolen, Mr. Sorrells, Mrs. Alexander, and Mr. Norton—have children in this county's schools. (Mr. Love, it is understood, has a school-age child who attends school in Swain county.)

Of the 11, one—Mrs. Alexander—is a woman. And the residences of the 11 are widely distributed.

Mr. Moore, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Sloan, and Mrs. Alexander live in Franklin township; Mr. Edwards, Mr. Norton, and Mr. DuPree in Highlands; Mr. Browning and Mr. Sorrells in Cowee; Mr. Love in Nantahala; and Mr. Nolen in Cartoogechaye.

A fourth and much more important qualification is the character and attitude of the board members, and it was suggested in that comment back in March that "they should be men and women who command county-wide respect. They should be persons genuinely interested in education, and who have informed, or will inform, themselves about present-day educational problems and trends, as well as the purely local situation.

"And they should be men and women who are preeminently fair-minded.

"For their first and most important job will be the election of a county superintendent, and in discharging that responsibility their one and only object should be to employ the best superintendent to be found.

"We will not get the best superintendent available if the board is made up of men and women who are pledged, even in their own minds, to elect any particular person, or not to elect any particular person.

"The only way to get the best superintendent available is to put on the board men and women who will go into office with open minds; who will deliberately set out to get applications from far and near; and who will carefully study the list of applicants, and then employ the man—whether it be the present superintendent or someone else—best fitted to give us here in Macon County a school system second to none."

Which five of the 11 candidates best measure up to that qualification is, of course, a matter that each voter must decide for himself.

The Task And The Man

In today's world of the cold war and the atom bomb, the most vital of domestic political issues is dwarfed into insignificance by the international crisis. For if we lose the cold war—even if we fail to win it before it becomes a hot war—how much of our freedoms would be left?

And under our American set-up, the solution of today's complex and terrifying international problems is the joint responsibility of the President and the Senate.

The paramount issue, the one important issue, therefore, before North Carolina Democrats as they prepare to select a nominee for U. S. Senator is this question:

Which of the candidates is best fitted to help solve the grave international problems that face America today?

The names of four men will appear on the primary ballot.

Ola Ray Boyd is not considered a serious contender for the nomination.

Robert R. Reynolds, former senator, is an acknowledged isolationist—both his previous record and his present words so mark him.

And Willis Smith has been conspicuously silent on international problems.

The fourth candidate is Senator Frank P. Graham. What are his qualifications for the difficult task that awaits the man North Carolina sends to the Senate?

* * *

Because today has its roots in yesterday, because

we can understand what is happening today only in the light of what happened in the past, is not one requisite for the task a sense of the meaning and importance of history?

History is Frank Graham's line—he taught history at the University of North Carolina before he became its president.

Because we are faced with a powerful and ruthless dictatorship, is not another the willingness and ability to fight?

Frank Graham has been fighting all his life. And those who have opposed him in the North Carolina general assembly, where he frequently has battled for things he considered vital to the University, will testify as to how effective a fighter he is. If he has ever feared any thing or any body, his enemies have failed to point out the instance.

But because it is so important that we win the cold war before it becomes a shooting war, surely we need, too, a man who is a negotiator and conciliator.

Frank Graham has learned to fight only after negotiation and conciliation have failed, and he has proved himself a past master at those arts. Time and again, during the war, when it was essential that production be uninterrupted, he was successful in bringing management and labor into agreement. And his painstaking, patient efforts, plus his fairness and tolerance, are largely responsible for the birth, in an atmosphere of peace and good will, of the Republic of Indonesia, where he represented the United Nations.

Finally, in this period of crisis and fear, it is well to remember that the men who brought this nation into being were men who recognized their dependence upon a Supreme Being. And no sensible man could face today's terrifying international problems without a sense of humility, a feeling of inadequacy—none could face them calmly except those with religious convictions.

Nobody could long talk with Frank Graham without sensing his deep-seated faith in God. He shows it, even if in no other way, by his unswerving faith in democracy, for no man could have such faith in his fellowmen without the conviction that within every man is a little bit of God.

Letters

ASK EXPLANATION

Editor, The Franklin Press:

We would like an explanation from the board of aldermen for the Town of Franklin why they elected Mr. Erwin Long as clerk for the Town of Franklin at a salary of \$200 per month, plus the \$120 tax scroll fee, when other applicants, who are capable and can make the bond, offered to take the job at \$150 per month.

That would have been a saving to the taxpayers of \$50 per month, plus the tax scroll fee of \$120 or more. \$720 per year is worth saving.

Herman Dean and Arthur Kisland offered their services at \$150. Tom Moore and others didn't set any salary figure. Richard (Dick) Angel, an ex-GI, should have been considered.

This is the second time the board has turned down applicants at \$150 and gone to another applicant at a much higher salary. The taxpayers would like to know why their money is being wasted foolishly.

HERMAN DEAN
RICHARD ANGEL

LIKES EDITORIAL

Dear Mr. Jones,

I have just read your editorial, "Where Frank Graham Stands." Like the one which I read last week, it is encouragement and an inspiration to those who are working and praying for Senator Graham's election.

You have, of course, put your finger on the sore point—a small minority fear his faith: the greatest freedom for the largest number. It would be better for his opponents if they could fix things so the group they represent would alone be benefitted. It's his interest in the greatest number of people—that is the reason he's being attacked.

You deserve the thanks of us all for your stand, for your excellent, well reasoned editorial. Best wishes for success.

Very sincerely,

Charlotte, N. C.,
May 13, 1950.

MACK BELL

Others' Opinions

N. C. PHYSICIANS TAKE ACTION

By its action at Pinehurst last week the house of delegates of the North Carolina medical society served notice that hereafter no unethical practices will be tolerated among members of the medical profession in the state and that complaints against any physician made in writing by his fellows or patients will be investigated.

Such notice was given when the house of delegates agreed to form a grievance committee to rule on the professional conduct of members of the society and to receive and investigate complaints filed against any doctor.

The action was not taken without deliberation or on any sudden impulse. It was taken in the adoption by the house of delegates of a report presented by a committee headed by Dr. Wingate M. Johnson, of Winston-Salem, an outstanding physician and editor of the Medical Journal of North Carolina. His own interpretation of the action taken was that it served notice that unethical conduct would not be tolerated among North Carolina physicians.

The grievance committee will be composed of the five most recent available past presidents of the state society, with any additions the executive committee might suggest. Although the grievance committee will not attempt to discipline a member of the society, it will be authorized to file charges against any doctor deemed by the committee to be guilty of unethical conduct. Presumably final disciplinary action will be up to the house of delegates.

This new program of the medical profession of North Carolina is of interest and vital importance to the lay public as well as to the doctors. It indicates that the profession in North Carolina intends to clean its own house, if any house-cleaning is necessary. It means, or ought to mean, better protection for those who need the services of physicians.

The move deserves the commendation of the public.
—Charlotte Observer.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

NORTH CAROLINA MACON COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the power of sale vested in the undersigned trustee by deed of trust executed by F. R. Leach and wife Marie Leach, dated September 5, 1947, and recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book of Mortgages and Deeds of Trust B. & L. No. 2, page 184, 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 Tuesday, the 6th day of June, 1950, at 12:00 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 A. L. Leach and wife Fannie Leach to Frank R. Leach, said deed bearing date of 27 August, 1926, and recorded in the office of Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina in Book N-4 of Deeds, page 504, described as follows: BEGINNING at a stone, the East corner of a tract of land deeded from M. E. Cozad to A. L. Leach, runs North 10 West 118 feet to a stake in the line of the Franklin graded school lands; thence with Franklin graded school property line; North 87 West 110 feet to a stake; then South 10 East 150 feet to a stake in the line between Cozad and Leach; then with Cozad's line North 80 East 110 feet to the BEGINNING.

This 5th day of May, 1950.

GILMER A. JONES, Trustee.

M11-4tc-J1

NORTH CAROLINA MACON COUNTY

Under and by virtue of the power of sale vested in the undersigned trustee by deed of trust executed by Roy J. Collier and wife Mary Collier, dated November 5, 1948, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Book of Mortgages and Deeds of Trust B. & L. No. 2, page 254, 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 Tuesday, the 6th day of June, 1950, at 12:00 o'clock noon, at the Courthouse door in Franklin, North Carolina, sell to the highest bidder for cash the following described land:

All the land described in a deed from Lax Dills to Roy J. Collier, dated December 27, 1945, and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds for Macon County, North Carolina, in Deed Book U-5, page 351.

This 5th day of May, 1950.

GILMER A. JONES, Trustee.

M11-4tc-J1

EXECUTRICE NOTICE

Having qualified as executrix of J. E. S. Thorpe, 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 7 day of April, 1951, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 7 day of April, 1950.

OLIVIA B. THORPE,

Executrix.

A13-6tc-M18

Political Advertising

FOR SHERIFF

I am a candidate for the office of sheriff, subject to the Democratic Primary to be held May 27. Your support and influence will be greatly appreciated.

LESTER L. ARNOLD

M11-2tp-M18

FOR STATE SENATE

I take this means of announcing my candidacy for the office of Senator from the 33rd Senatorial District, North Carolina, subject to the wishes of the voters in the May 27th Democratic Primary.

If nominated and elected, I will do everything in my power to uphold the interests of whole people of these five Western North Carolina counties. Your vote and support will sincerely be appreciated.

LYNDON E. CONLEY

M11-2tp-M18

Say:

"I saw it advertised in the Press"

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