

The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

VOL. LXVII

Number 21

Published every Thursday by The Franklin Press
At Franklin, North Carolina
Telephone 24

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

WEIMAR JONES.....Editor
BOB S. SLOAN.....Business Manager

SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

In Macon County—	
Single Copy10
One Year	\$2.50
Six Months	\$1.75
Three Months	\$1.00
Out-of-County—	
One Year	\$3.00

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.

MAY 22, 1951

Snafu

THE men in the armed forces have a word for it, "snafu".

It means "situation normal, all fouled up".

And a demonstration of snafu at an all-time high—or low—has just been given at the American prisoner of war camp on the Korean island of Koje.

First of all, an American general, the commanding officer of the camp, put himself in a position to be captured by the Red POWs. In a land where "face" means so much, it is almost inconceivable that an officer with the hostage value of a brigadier general ever should take such a chance. But apparently General Dodd did it often, because announcements in Washington suggest that incident was timed to fit in with the Communists' propaganda efforts at Panmunjom—that is, that the general could have been captured at whatever time best suited Communist purposes.

Next, the army gave color to any charges the Reds might make, then or later, by throwing a cloak of secrecy about the whole affair. It was two days before the army admitted General Dodd's capture, and at latest reports newsmen still were denied access to both General Dodd and his successor, General Colson. Since it is difficult to see how security entered into the picture—especially after General Dodd's release—the Communists can ask with perfect logic: What was it the army wanted to cover up?

In the third act, General Colson, whose superiors gave him "full authority and command to handle the situation", obtained General Dodd's release by making concessions officially described at the time as of "minor importance". It later developed, however, that General Colson allowed himself to be put in the position of the witness who was told to give a yes-or-no answer to the question: "Have you stopped beating your wife?" Among other things, he promised—and put it in writing:—humanitarian treatment of prisoners, to stop forcible screening of prisoners, and to stop re-arming prisoners (presumably to fight on the U. N. side).

And as though that were not snafu enough, General Mark Clark, terming the whole affair "blackmail", repudiated the promises made by Colson, thus putting America in the position of openly breaking its promises.

All this within a matter of just one week!

Picking A School Board

All the nominations to be made in next week's Democratic primary election are important; each contest warrants the careful consideration of every voter.

But because good government, like charity, begins at home, this piece deals with the one purely local race. That is for the five places on the county board of education. Those are not fulltime jobs, and the pay is purely nominal, but no job is more important; and that is particularly true in Macon County at this time.

The voters are fortunate in having a wide choice; 12 names will appear on the ballot.

In selecting five from those 12, only one thing matters: Which five will make the best board members?

It would be presumption, of course, for The Press

A Lift For Today

(Furnished by The Raleigh Times)

★ Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning.—Ps. 30:5.

OUT OF SORROW and suffering, we may call upon our Heavenly Father in the full assurance that he is near, and willing to answer our call—not always at once or in the way we expect—but according to His infinite wisdom and love.

Our loving Father, keep us ever assured of Thy wisdom and content in Thy love.

to suggest choices to the voters. It seems proper, however, to list a few of the qualifications that board members should have.

First of all, it seems to us, those chosen should be the five persons who are the best citizens—men or women of good character who are public-spirited enough to give the job the time and study the work will require.

They should be persons who will put the schools above petty jealousies, above personalities, and above politics.

They should be persons who are genuinely interested in the schools, and have proved that interest in the past.

They should be persons who know something about education—men and women who believe in education enough to have become educated—whether in school or out—themselves.

Finally, those we put on our school board should be persons who look forward instead of backward—that is fundamental in all education.

If the voters will give thought to the matter, choose those they believe are best fitted for the re-choose those they believe are best fitted for the responsibility, and then go to the polls and vote, the

An Open Letter

To

Members of the 1952 Graduating Classes Of Macon County's High Schools

Dear Graduates:

What next?

College? vocational training? an apprenticeship in a job?

You will have to leave Macon County to get a college education.

You probably will have to leave to get vocational training.

You may have to leave to get the apprenticeship you want.

But after you have been away a while, after you have your training, come back and take a good look at your home county. Look at it as a possible place to make your home.

Macon County needs you. It needs you, the cream of its youth crop, as it needs no other one thing. You can give it a "shot in the arm"—a shot of vision and enthusiasm and energy—that no money can buy.

That is not to say you should come back here to live if there are no opportunities; but usually there are opportunities where there is need.

It is not to say you should come back, if it entails a real sacrifice. But it is no real sacrifice to draw a little less money if living costs are lower. It is no real sacrifice to advance a little more slowly if life is more worth living. It is no real sacrifice to work for a small—instead of a large—concern if you have the opportunity to do the work you want to do.

Go, by all means, and get your training—training is another thing we badly need here.

But after you get it, come back and investigate the possibilities in Macon County; investigate carefully.

You may be surprised at how many and how varied are the opportunities right here at home.

YOUR HOME FOLKS.

Our American Civilization

Prating of Christianity; putting our trust in physical force.

Prating of our faith in democracy; always fearing that an election will go wrong.

Prating of human dignity; worshipping a mass production economic system that makes man a slave of the machine.

Poetry

Editor
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE
Weaverville, North Carolina

Sponsored by Asheville Branch, National League of American Pen Women

GRAN'MA, WHY?

"Gran'ma, why is the wind so sweet?"
"Because it is free, my child;
It rustles the corn and plays with the wheat,
It gambols and capers with nimble feet,
It bullies the clouds till they all retreat;
You like it because it is wild."

"Gran'ma, why are the stars so bright?"
"Because it is clear, my boy;
The sky was washed by the rain last night,
And they shimmer and twinkle for your delight;
They glow to measure the starlit height
Of life and love and joy."

LENA MEARLE SHULL

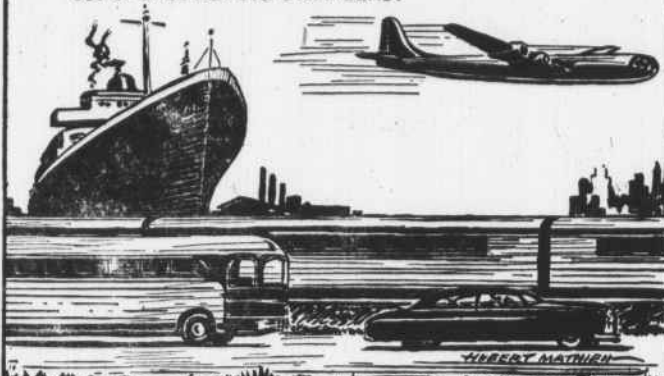
OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

"HOWDY, NEIGHBOR"

IN THE HORSE-AND-BUGGY DAYS, THE RADIUS OF A COMMUNITY WAS PRETTY WELL DETERMINED BY HOW FAR OLD DOBBIN COULD TRAVEL.



TODAY, THE COMMUNITY IS COUNTRY-WIDE, AS THE MOBILITY OF TRANSPORTATION HAS BROUGHT ONCE DISTANT TOWNS NEXT DOOR AND MADE NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBORS OUT OF ONCE REMOTE STRANGERS.



AND INCREASINGLY THE COMMUNITY IS EXPANDING TO INCLUDE AS NEIGHBORS THE FRIENDLY PEOPLES ACROSS OUR BORDERS AND OVER THE SEAS—IN THE SPIRIT OF TRUE DEMOCRACY.

Letters

ONE VOTE

Editor, The Press:

In our Presidential election year of 1948 only 45 million persons out of approximately 93 million eligible to vote did vote—less than 50 per cent!

Frequently you hear this question: What good will one vote do? Well, sir, (or mam, as the case may be), one vote has had a lot to do with a lot of things in these United States.

Thomas Jefferson was elected President by one vote in the electoral college.

So was John Quincy Adams.

Rutherford B. Hayes was elected President by one vote. His election was contested, and it was referred to an Electoral commission. Again he won by a single vote.

The man who cast the deciding vote for President Hayes was a congressman from Indiana, a lawyer who was elected to congress by a margin of just one vote. And that vote was cast by a client of his who, though desperately ill, insisted on being taken to the polls to vote.

Just one vote gave statehood to California, Oregon, Idaho, Texas and Washington—and today all the millions of folks living in those five states are Americans by just one vote.

Now you may say that the one vote situation applies only to the past. Well, don't forget that the draft act of World War II passed the house by just one vote—and you can carry this one vote history on and on.

In 1948 when Mr. Truman carried the state of Ohio, he won by exactly 7107 votes—less than one vote in each of the 8800 election precincts. One more Republican vote in each of Ohio's

Continued On Page Three—

Others' Opinions

FOUR FACTS

Chancellor Bismarck, in his elder years, was once asked what, in his judgment, was the most significant single factor in the world of his day. He replied it was the fact that the people of the United States spoke English.

What may well prove to be the most important physical fact in the world of 50 years later has just been underlined in Population Bulletin, a United Nations publication: That the population of the world is now half again as big as it was in 1900, and increasing at an accelerating rate.

From that fact can be deduced enormous consequences: The outward pressures of teeming Japan exploding at Pearl Harbor; the tragic outcome of the ambitions of the vigorous, prolific German people; the appalling poverty and unrest among the hundreds of millions in China and India; the vanished self-sufficiency of the British Isles; the multiplication of social controls in nations where complexity in living piles upon the increasing numbers who live.

The outlook is sobering. It could be terrifying were it not for another and even larger fact which is mental, not physical: The ever-amazing adaptability of the human race to a long procession of conditions, each of which in prospect has appeared intolerable. To which should be added a second, still greater fact which the upward reaching have known in all ages: That when man calls humbly upon the source of his intelligence, God, the wisdom which is his for the asking always suffices for the hour.—Christian Science Monitor.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

Watching Umstead and Olive slug it out for the Democratic nomination for governor has proved a little nauseating.

I suppose this race, in some respects, has been no worse than—perhaps not as bad as—some other North Carolina campaigns. But I cannot recall one in which the candidates have appeared so openly self-seeking, so cynically contemptuous of the voters.

I am sick—and I am sure I am not alone in feeling that way—of a candidate attitude that suggests, "I am the one man in the world who can save the world"—and that insults the voter's intelligence by expecting him to believe that.

I am sick of candidates who try to outdo each other in promises—promises that often are little better than efforts to buy votes with the taxpayer's money, and as such are insults to the voter's integrity.

And I am sick of candidates whose purpose in running is to get something for themselves—the position and power that go with public office.

I hope—and expect—to live long enough to see a candidate for major public office OFFER himself—and then leave it to the voter to decide if they want him.

Of course the voters have a right to know what a candidate stands for, to see him, and to hear him speak (or to talk with him). But some day I hope—and expect—to see a candidate who is honest enough to make fewer, rather than more, promises than his opponent. A candidate who has faith enough in our form of government to believe the voters have the good sense and the character to select the best program and the best man. A candidate who is independent enough not to care, for himself, whether he is elected or not.

There probably are many "practical" persons who are inclined to think that such ideas are just so much "idealistic drivel". They may be right. But before they flatly say so, they might do well to re-read the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States—and that other document on which those two are largely based, the New Testament.

—SP—

All education doesn't come out of books.

Every new experience adds to the education of the individual, whether he be child or adult. And one of the most broadening of experiences is travel; new scenes stir the imagination, and the exchange of

Continued on Page Three—

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
A bachelor is like an old shoe, the older he gets the softer he is.

A new post office has been established at Moffitt's shop four miles from town on the Georgia road. It is called Leeds, and was opened last Wednesday.

There are plenty of people incapable of doing their own thinking that they let the preacher shape their religious views, the politician mould their political opinions, the lawyer manage their property, and the doctor humor their ailments.

25 YEARS AGO

Bob Davis, Steve Porter, Jess Conley, and Alvan Pearce fished for fish in the Nantahala forest of last week. Bill Moore, Fred Slagle and a friend or two from Asheville also tried their luck at the same place. It is reported that Bill furnished fish for the whole crowd.

When the mail arrives these days the post office sounds like a brooder house. Thoroughbred baby chicks are coming in by the hundreds. When these chicks begin laying each cheap ought to bring in about one dollar.

10 YEARS AGO

The Macon County Post 108 of the American Legion entertained the World War veterans who are now at the Coweta CCC camp at the Legion hall on Monday night.

Mr. Mangum spoke to the Rotary club Wednesday on conditions in Germany as he saw them when in that country as a tourist in 1923, 1931, and 1937.