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and
The Highlands Marionian

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MAY 29, 1952

How Long?

For some 10 years now, the Franklin High school has had to hold its commencement programs in the Macon Theatre.

It happened once again last week. Once again the more than 100 young people graduating from this district-wide high school had no adequate school or other auditorium in which to have their commencement exercises. Once again they were rationed on the number they could invite—in many cases, they could not invite even all the members of their immediate families.

How long are we going to continue to penalize our high school graduates? How long are we going to continue to do without an auditorium in Franklin?

We'd Better Want A Part

Many things tend to discourage the average man and woman from voting.

Among them is the fact that the voter's right to express his will at the ballot box often is circumscribed. That is true both on the local and the national level.

In the selection of members of our Macon County school board, for example, the choice is limited to the Democratic primary election—and even the Democratic voters' choice has to be ratified by the general assembly.

On the national level, the average voter has no direct say-so about who shall be the nominees for President; he is restricted to the choice between two men, neither of whom may represent the will of the majority in the party. For instance, all indications are that, as of today, Senator Kefauver and General Eisenhower are the choices of the majorities of Democrats and Republicans. But it is quite possible that neither of these men will be nominated. The average voter may have to content himself with choosing between two other men, the choices of the political bosses in the two parties.

Neither of these situations makes sense.

But it does not follow that we should react as many voters do: "I want no part in politics."

You and I had better want a part, an active part, in politics.

For politics determines how much taxes we pay. It determines how that tax money is spent. It determines what sort of schools we have. It may determine whether we shall have war or peace. And it almost certainly will determine whether we shall have more and expanded or fewer and restricted freedoms.

Of course the system isn't perfect—it's up to us to keep insisting that it be improved.

But if we wait until somebody makes it perfect for us before we take any part in the politics that operate our government, we are likely to find some-

A Lift For Today

(Furnished by The Raleigh Times)

★ Study to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands . . . I Thess. 4:11.

SEEKING GOD early in the morning enables us to meet the problems of the day and hold true to the principles of Christ in all the work of life.

Almighty God, help us to seek Thy face in the quiet of the morning that our hearts may be filled with holy joy for Thy promise that "my grace is sufficient for thee."

body has decided to improve it by changing it—that's what happened, a few years ago, in Germany. It's happened time after time, in country after country.

The time, if you are a Democrat, to start doing your job as a voter is in Saturday's primary. The time to start, if you are a Republican, is in next fall's general election.

Our American Civilization

Demanding that the automobile have all the gadgets; wondering why it is so hard to meet the payments.

Shouting about the right to freedom of thought and speech; ostracizing those who exercise that freedom as being "queer".

Insisting that nothing is too good for the children; being surprised when the children insist nothing is too good for them.

Poetry

Editor
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE
Weaverville, North Carolina

Sponsored by Asheville Branch, National League of American Pen Women

MAY

There is a glowing jewel hung
On the emerald gown of May;
Rose-purple rhododendron . . . though
The world may rock and sway
With wide tumultuous wars, and men
May weep and curse and pray—
Still—
Rose-purple rhododendron blooms
On the emerald gown of May.

BESS HINSON HINES

Highlands and California.

Letters

**AN OPEN LETTER
To The Bootleggers**

I think if you could see the trouble you all cause us old women folks, and the money you beat us, and little children, out of, you surely would quit. Just what do you think is going to become of you? Just think how many accidents on account of liquor, how many deaths, how much innocent blood is going to be required at your hands.

God's holy word says: "Nay unto him that puts the bottle to his neighbor's mouth."

I can't understand how you are going to get by with it. I hope you all will read this and quit. Get down on your knees and ask God to forgive you and lead a better life, and make a better place for our children to live—what our boys are fighting and dying for. Are they coming back and find it a better place or worse?

Let's all try to make it a Christian nation.

MRS. DAVE ANGEL

Cullasaja, N. C.

Others' Opinions

THE RIGHT TO BE INFORMED

Freedom of the press is not primarily a privilege accorded journalists; it is the right of the readers, citizens, to be informed.—La Gazette, Lansanne, Switzerland.

BYRD AND THE G. O. P.

Senator Byrd said the other day that he would support a Republican President if the Republican stood for the maintenance of national credit and a sound currency.

Senator Byrd never has been comfortable in the Democratic party, and since this is so let us recommend to him that he frankly embrace the Republican party and help the South get a two-party system started.

We'll never have a two-party system in the South if so many natural Republicans continue to run for office on the Democratic ticket.—Durham Herald.

DOCTOR EDNA

One thing that amazes me is where in the heck Edna, our maid, accumulated all her medical knowledge. Doctors have to spend years in colleges and then take a four-year medical course plus an internship in some hospital before they are permitted to diagnose the difference between a bad cold and an upset stomach.

But every time one of our children gets sick, Edna skids into the room and diagnoses the cases right off the bat. This trait of hers must have been handed down from untold generations.

"What dat child needs," she says, "is a little boiled rabbit tobacco and elem tea."

"What the blazes is elem tea?" I've asked.

"It's a little plant wid three leaves spreadin one way and four de other," she replied. "You can find plenty of 'em back down on de creek."

Surprisingly, I've run down, located the plant and some rabbit tobacco, then balled them together, and the children immediately get well.

Of course, they might have gotten well anyway, but to this

OUR DEMOCRACY——by Mat
LEST WE FORGET

THE MEN WE REMEMBER ON MEMORIAL DAY
GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THE GOOD FIGHT TO
BUILD AND MAINTAIN OUR DEMOCRACY.



WE HONOR THEM BEST WHEN WE DEVOTE OUR LIVES TO THE PRESERVATION AND ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSE TO WHICH THEY GAVE "THE LAST FULL MEASURE OF DEVOTION."

day I haven't been able to prove that Edna was wrong. After all, penicillin is just a plant mold—and look what it's done! —Gus Travis in Charlotte Observer.

PASSING THE BUCK

Cameron West hands me a good one that answers the age-old question of who's to blame.

College Professor: "Such rawness in a pupil is a shame; lack of preparation in the high school is to blame."

High School Teacher: "Good heavens, what crudity! The boy's a fool! The fault, of course, is in the grammar school."

Grammar School Teacher: "From such stupidity may I be spared; they send them up to me so unprepared."

Primary Teacher: "Kindergarten blockhead! And they call that preparation! Worse than none at all!"

Kindergarten Teacher: "Such lack of training never did I see. What kind of a woman must the mother be?"

The Mother: "Poor helpless child; he's not to blame. His father's people were just the same."—Jacksonville (N.C.) News and Views.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

As a youngster, I dreamed of the day when I would be able to buy blue grass in quantity, and give one pound to anybody who agreed to sow it.

That, I argued, in a few years would make this a land of mountains and blue grass, something beautiful beyond words.

Having had that dream, I find considerable vicarious pleasure in something similar Burrell Motor company is doing.

With a view to a more attractive Franklin and Macon County, that firm has bought hundreds of packets of Burpee's hybrid giant zinnia seeds, and is distributing them, without charge, to flower lovers in Franklin and throughout the county. All a person has to do to get a packet is to ask for it.

Think what these tens of thousands of zinnia seeds can do toward beautifying the flower gardens and fence rows and roadsides of Macon County this summer! And how this county would blaze with color if everybody, next fall, would save their seed and divide them with neighbors and friends!

Sometimes it seems a long way from other places to Franklin—or even to Asheville.

I found, last week-end, how hard it is to get from Asheville to middle North Carolina, especially if time is a factor.

I was due in Chapel Hill Saturday morning for the opening of the North Carolina Editorial Writers conference, but could not leave until Saturday morning. By flying, however, I figured I could get to Chapel Hill in time for all but the morning session; so made a plane reservation.

Arrived at the Asheville-Hendersonville airport shortly after 8 o'clock. I learned that the only way I could get from Asheville to Chapel Hill that morning was first to fly

to Bristol, Tenn. (which is no nearer Chapel Hill than Asheville is), wait two hours there, and then take a plane for Raleigh. By this around-your-elbow-to-get-to-your-thumb route, I reached the Raleigh-Durham airport at 1:10 p. m.

Still 20 miles from Chapel Hill, I got a limousine (why is it that all automobiles, of whatever vintage and whatever style, are "limousines" if they operate out of an airport?). To cover that 20 miles, it took exactly a third as long, and charged more than a third as much, as the time, and the fare, from Bristol, Tenn., to Raleigh.

And I learned how far off Franklin sometimes is, when I started home Sunday. Arrived in Asheville late Sunday afternoon, I was told that the usual late bus from Asheville to Atlanta does not operate on Sundays. In other words, there is no bus out of Asheville, if it happens to be a week-end, from 3:30 one afternoon until 11:15 the next morning—a period of nearly 24 hours.

I wondered, as I spent that 20 hours in Asheville, why the State Utilities Commission ever approved such an arrangement? and if the commission considers that kind of service is "in the public interest?"

An interesting sidelight of the editorial writers' meeting was the half-serious complaint of one of the critics, imported for the purpose from above the Mason and Dixon line, that all the Southern papers, not content with robbing New England of its textile mills, now are trying to rob the West of its cattle business.

He insisted—a little too emphatically, I thought, for a man who was joking—that it just couldn't be done!

To which somebody replied: "You see, we're winning the Civil War, after all!"

**Ramseys
Employing Right
Use Of Land**

By LACY HARPER

(Conservationist)
Using land according to its capabilities is the goal of the Soil Conservation Service. Albert and Clayton Ramsey, of the Iotia community, are working toward this end. On one of their alfalfa fields, rather steep land, it had become necessary to renovate and reseed. Instead of plowing the entire area at one time they have laid out strips across the slope and will cultivate in sections this year to kill out the weeds and grass. Next year these strips will be seeded back to alfalfa and other strips plowed and later reseeded. By this method, only part of the sod across the slope is plowed at a time and the erosion hazard is held to a minimum.

Capability of a field is the idea of using it so the least amount of soil will be lost and also to obtain the maximum income. In other words, use the field for what it is best suited.

**Airman Walker On Leave
Here; Going To Far East**

Leslie Paul Walker, airman first class, arrived here this week to spend a 30-day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Walker. At the end of his leave, Mr. Walker is on orders to go to the Far East for duty.

**Dr. Janowsky Is Named
Chairman Of Association
Health Officers Section**

Dr. Carl C. Janowsky, district health officer, was named chairman of the health officers section of the Western North Carolina Public Health association at a recent meeting in Blowing Rock.

The association embraces 18 health departments in W. N. C.

**MRS. SOPER HONORS
ANDERSONS AT DINNER**

Mrs. Ellis Soper honored Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair Anderson with a dinner party at her home, "Four Winds", Saturday night in celebration of the 53rd wedding anniversary of the Andersons.

Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Caba and children.

**Do You
Remember?**

(Looking backward through the files of The Press.)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Mrs. F. S. Jonnston and daughter, Miss Lynn, left Wednesday for an extended visit to relatives in Atlanta and Forsyth, Ga.

Mr. R. L. Porter and two children, DeWitt and Iris, were joined in Asheville by Miss Nina, who had just come from school at Winston, and all went to Charleston to visit the exposition. They returned home last Wednesday except Miss Nina, who remained in Asheville with her sister, Mrs. Reid Crawford.

25 YEARS AGO

Mr. Jimmy Hauser has been appointed as fish warden for Macon County.

After the eating contest is concluded July 4th, The Press is thinking seriously of putting on a contest to determine the biggest liar in the county. The eating contest is bringing out quite a few who should be eligible for this distinction.

Among the graduates of the Sylva Collegiate Institute this year were Misses Bonnie DeHart and Ruby Solesbee and Mr. Carl Corbin, of Franklin, and Mrs. Erwin Smith, of Tellico.

Tune in tonight on WWNC and hear the musical celebrities of Franklin broadcast an excellent program from eight to nine. The program was printed in last week's Press.

10 YEARS AGO

Carl Goerch, editor of "The State", a weekly magazine published in Raleigh, and Robert A. Erwin, North Carolina journalist now living in Washington and writing a weekly column, "On The Tar Heel Front In Washington", were visitors in Franklin last week.

If you can get an automobile and some tires, you can have a nice vacation trip this summer, if you can get some gasoline. (This and That, by Frankie Macon).

A man in Washington was arrested a few weeks ago for impersonating a Congressman. Anyone with such a morbid form of mania is clearly insane.