

# The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

VOL. LXVII

Number 43

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:

Out-of-County—One Year.....	\$3.00
In Macon County—One Year.....	\$2.50
Six Months.....	\$1.75
Three Months.....	\$1.00
Single Copy.....	.10

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OCTOBER 23, 1952

## Independent

The editor of this newspaper always has felt himself capable of—and has demanded the right to—make up his own mind, without unasked advice from others; how to vote in a general election.

He believes other voters are equally capable of reaching their own decisions, and feels that they also should be accorded the right to do so.

Even if the editor of The Press felt himself wise enough to tell the voters how they should vote (which he certainly doesn't!), he still would hesitate to offer that advice. And for this reason: The whole theory of our government is based on the conviction that the majority of citizens generally will reach a wise decision, **provided** each individual voter does his own thinking and makes up his own mind. That proviso is ignored when any newspaper, or any political leader, attempts to and is able to tell great blocks of voters how to mark their ballots.

For these reasons, The Press has not endorsed either Stevenson or Eisenhower in its editorials—and will not do so. Instead, it has tried to be impartial; to praise, where praise seemed deserved, and to damn where damning seemed due, without reference to party or candidate.

That, in fact, is in line with what we conceive to be the job of any newspaper that calls itself independent—to praise or criticize policies and acts, rather than parties or men.

REMEMBER—You can't kick if you don't vote, and you can't vote if you don't register.

## Ironie

Few qualities, perhaps, are rarer today than a sense of proportion. And lack of that sense sometimes creates situations so ironic as to be almost ludicrous. What, for example, could have been more ironic than something that happened in Harlem the other day.

When President Truman appeared in that Negro center to appeal for the votes of Negroes, the agency sponsoring the meeting, an interdenominational ministers association, for the second time presented Mr. Truman its Franklin Delano Roosevelt Award for achievement in good relations between races.

Achievement in good relations, mind you! What could have been more inappropriate!

There is ground, of course, for arguing that Mr. Truman has forced the granting of rights and privileges to Negroes. It is arguable, perhaps, that he has brought about an improvement in the overall situation of the Negro. But forcing the granting of rights and opportunities is one thing; achievement of good race relations—that is, of good will—is another and completely different one.

Mr. Truman may deserve much credit for the one, but certainly his achievement in the other is nil. As a matter of fact, he probably has done more than any other man of this generation to destroy good relations between the races. Because good race relations demand that a member of one race think of a member of another not chiefly as white, or Negro, but as another human being. And, thanks to Mr. Truman's crusade for civil rights, we probably are more race-conscious today than at any time since Reconstruction. This, of course, is particularly true of the Negro.

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## Significant

Probably the most significant political development of last week was the repudiation of General Eisenhower by Senator Morse, Oregon Republican.

It is more important than the shift of two Democrats—South Carolina's Governor Byrnes and Virginia's Senator Byrd. Those Democratic defections were not unexpected, because Byrnes and Byrd were known to be out of sympathy with Stevenson. Senator Morse, on the other hand, was one of the original and one of the most enthusiastic and powerful supporters of General Eisenhower.

The incident is given its greatest significance, though, by something else. In what he said about the Republican nominee, Senator Morse voiced the unspoken feeling of a growing number of independents, liberals, and undecideds.

Said this Republican senator who was instrumental in getting Eisenhower to become a candidate for the Republican nomination:

"Never have I been so completely disillusioned about any man as I am about Eisenhower. The Eisenhower I supported for the nomination is not the Eisenhower who is dangling and dancing from campaign platforms at the end of political puppet strings being jerked by some of the most evil and reactionary forces in American politics." In support of his statement, Senator Morse cited what he called General Eisenhower's "surrender" to Senator Taft and the general's "endorsement of candidates whose reelection would threaten civil liberties and human rights at home and peace in the world."

Many who are becoming disillusioned may not feel as strongly as Senator Morse, but it is a fact that Eisenhower **has** changed. Before the Republican convention, he appealed to most Americans, of whatever party, as a good candidate because he was NOT a politician; as a man great enough to control, rather than be controlled, by politics and politicians. To any honest observer, it is pretty clear that General Eisenhower's faith in himself is considerably less than was the faith the people had in him.

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## The UN Program

Because any great political movement must find its strength among the ordinary people, the United Nations day observance here—and in towns and hamlets the country over—tomorrow afternoon is, in a sense, quite as important as what happens tomorrow at the United Nations headquarters.

And because the question of war or peace affects most the ordinary citizen, nothing is more important to the average Macon County citizen than the success or failure of the United Nations.

In the light of those considerations, tomorrow's United Nations program in Franklin will be something far more important than "just another meeting"; it will be visible, tangible evidence of the average man's yearning for a peaceful world, and of his willingness to contribute his bit toward that end.

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## Letters

### MCCARTHY AND TRUMAN

Editor, The Press:

Democrats were very vociferous in their demands that Ike repudiate the methods of McCarthy. Don't you think that it is now time for Stevenson to repudiate the methods of Truman in fanning the fires of race prejudice and other anti-Southern prejudice, as exemplified in his speech at Harlem? Such race-baiting and South-baiting as Truman was guilty of was worthy of Gerald K. Smith. His main argument against Ike was that, in consorting with Southern leaders, Ike was guilty of treason.

Sincerely,

Dahlongega, Ga.

JACK CARPENTER

REMEMBER—You can't kick if you don't vote, and you can't vote if you don't register.

### POT AND KETTLE

Editor, The Press:

It isn't often that I read one of your editorials with which I disagree, but I feel you did not give all angles in your editorial, "Facts about Funds", and were not justified in saying the Nixon fund was worse than the Stevenson fund. Presumably both are honest men, both funds were wrong in being kept from the public. There is this difference, Nixon was subject to being bribed, Stevenson subjected a group of his sub-

## His Platform Is Peace



THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE

ordinates in the state service to being bribed. One accepts a bribe, the other gives a bribe.

All candidates feel an obligation to those who vote for them and who contribute to their campaign funds, particularly large contributions. We find the President openly giving office to a man for large campaign funds. In Nixon's case the principal difference between campaign contributors and contributors to his fund was secrecy. Both were spent for political objectives, one spent personally by Nixon, the other entirely so spent. If one man paid \$50 to the Nixon fund and \$500 to his campaign fund, to whom would Nixon feel most obligated? In the Stevenson case, a group of his assistants get money for personal use just like any other salary. You make a point of the money being contributed before election. No one knew just who contributed that particular fund and there was no obligation to anyone but Stevenson. It was his to spend and the recipients were dependent on his favor for it. Getting part of their salary from the state and part from Stevenson, they had two loyalties, and "no man can serve two masters". Wasn't that a perfect set-up if Stevenson wanted to pull some fast ones—loyal assistants to carry them out and conceal facts? He had bribed a whole group.

Both funds were wrong but I cannot see that one was white and the other black.

Yours truly,

Highlands, N. C.

F. W. ALTSTAETTER

### THE NIXON SHOW

Editor, The Press:

We have had quite a bit of writing on the Nixon Fund. The Nixon show was quite a show, almost like the ones put on by the big soap companies. It has also been said that they put Nixon on. It is getting to be commonly known as the tear show.

Senator Nixon urged Governor Stevenson and Senator Sparkman to come before the American people and make a complete financial statement, if they had nothing to hide.

Well, both Democratic candidates made public their income tax returns for the past 10 years. These sworn statements have not been challenged. Yet Senator Nixon has never made the same gesture.

Senator Nixon is the fellow who started it all but who managed to leave unanswered some important facts about his own income.

In the first case, he accepted cold cash from a small group of rich men who had a direct interest in the manner in which he, Nixon, voted in the senate. The fact that Nixon's votes tallied almost every time with exactly how his fund raisers wanted him to vote may be purely coincidental. The important point is that he accepted more than \$18,000 in a year and a half from 76 wealthy supporters without the knowledge of the rest of the voters of the golden state.

Senator Nixon sent several thousand engraved Christmas cards. He said he spent the \$18,000 to save the taxpayers money. I didn't know the tax payers were responsible for anybody's Christmas cards.

It looks to me like Mr. Nixon left lots of the \$18,000-questions unanswered and tried to play on the emotions of the American people for the purpose of getting votes.

Mr. Nixon keeps making a campaign issue out of Governor Stevenson's testifying in the Alger Hiss case. The Hiss case has been discussed many times. Governor Stevenson did what any good citizen would have done under the circumstances, say 22 prominent attorneys, both Republicans and Democrats, who have challenged Nixon's sly effort to defame an honorable opponent.

The truth is that Hiss fooled everybody but his former associates in the Communist party. He fooled John Foster Dulles, who recommended the appointment of Hiss to the presidency of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace after Hiss had left the government. Dulles is chairman of the Endowment, and General Eisenhower was a trustee.

There is another issue that I doubt if the Republicans can dispute. That is that about 99 per cent of the people in Macon County are better off than they were 20 years ago.

Twenty years ago there was hardly a farm house in this one. Twenty years ago very few homes were being served by electricity, and if there had been, they couldn't have paid their bills.

The Republicans say things like T.V.A., P.M.A. and Social security lead to socialism, but if they do, the average American is for socialism.

Franklin, N. C.

(MISS) FRANCES SHEPHERD.

## News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

This past week-end local people received a very good example of the value of boy scout training. The training and information young Herbert McKelvey had received in Scout work stood him in good stead when he became lost in the Blue Valley section, south of Highlands last Saturday evening. By following the basic principals of scoutcraft the boy spent two nights alone in the woods clad only in overall pants, a T shirt and light shoes and socks without showing any ill effects, although the temperature was in the low 30's. Even though the country is so rough that many of the hundreds of searchers who took part in the search for the boy were sure that when found he would be injured by a fall over a cliff while wandering at night, except for being hungry, he was unharmed. He had followed basic rules of a woodsman such as if lost at night in the woods don't wander, and if lost find a stream. These principals he learned in Scouting, which is not as some people think, all play and no work.

We are most happy Herbert was found unhurt, and proud of his judgment.

The Cowee mountain road shows signs of becoming a reality since they have closed the road and are now pushing dirt over there. In our pleasure that this road at long last is being improved let's not forget another road that has been promised the people of Macon County. We were promised by various state officials that an all weather road would be built to the Nantahala section. This past week-end the traffic through the Smokies was bumper to bumper. With a good paved road through Wayah Gap and on to the Nantahala Gorge we could draw as many or more tourists. That is a reason in addition to the fact that the road is sorely needed by the people of Nantahala to enable them to come to Franklin to transact their business.

If only from a selfish standpoint, much less the fact of seeing a community as large as Nantahala get justice, every business man in Franklin should bend every effort to do anything in his power to see that this road is built. It is money in your pocket.

## Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Mr. Dan Ravenel, wife and two children, mother and sister came down from Highlands last Wednesday evening. Mr. Ravenel is treasurer of the Nantahala company, and, with his family will remain here permanently. His mother and sister remain only a few days as visitors.

Up to yesterday morning, 380 voters had registered in Franklin township, leaving about 70 who had not registered.

Mrs. George T. Hogsed and two sons, Lawrence and Thomas, of Cornelia, Ga., are on a weeks' visit to relatives in this county.

### 25 YEARS AGO

Tom Phillips is now with the state highway commission at Lake Toxaway.

Mr. W. F. Curtis was in Knoxville this week getting his spring line of sample shoes.

Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Rice was host and hostess at a delightful dance Saturday night at their camp on Iotla.

Mr. J. M. Gray, in charge of county agents of the state, reached Franklin from Raleigh Monday, having made the trip by auto in eleven and a half hours.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Furman Corbin is again on the staff of Angel hospital after having been with the TVA for six months.

Misses Kathryn Ann Huggins and Mildred Franklin visited their parents this week-end. They are attending Cecil's Business college at Asheville.

Among the F. F. A. boys who went to the Asheville Fair from this community are Harry Kinsland, John Seay, and Bill Gregory.