

# The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

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APRIL 23, 1953

## Do It Yourself!

Each year we have a clean up week in Franklin. Too often it is a formality. This year let's really do a job. The best way to bring this about is to start with your own property and **do it yourself.**

Take a look at your own business or residential property and try to see it the way a stranger would. See if the building needs a new paint job or new screens, or your grounds are as attractive as it is possible to make them.

If you can make any improvements, remember that you are not only helping yourself, but you are also helping your community.

Another way to help in the clean up campaign is to support the Broom Sale being sponsored by the Franklin Lion's club. It is a symbol of the spirit we should have to

"Clean Up, Fix Up, Paint Up Franklin."

## Pertinent Questions

If the U. S. Forest Service can make a really substantial savings by merging the Nantahala National Forest with the Pisgah, and if this is not an isolated case of economy, but a part of a general, nation-wide, government-wide program to cut costs, there are no good grounds for opposing the merger.

There are, however, three very pertinent questions that it is proper to ask—and have answered.

The first is the general one: Is this just a show-case instance of economy, or is it part of a national pattern?

The other two are more specific:

Will the merger result in a really substantial reduction in the cost of administration?

And will such paper savings as may be made not be offset by a lowering of efficiency in the operation of the Nantahala, because of absentee management?

It is to be hoped that Senators Hoey and Smith and Congressman Shuford will insist on postponement of the merger until they have satisfactory answers to these questions—answers that quote chapter and verse; that cite facts and figures so broken down as to remove the question from the realm of purely theoretical advantages to that of practicality.

## Whose Foot

What is happening in Washington in the Tidelands oil controversy is an amusing instance of the truth of the old saw about its depending on whose foot is pinched.

For the opponents of the bill to establish states' title to submerged oil lands off their shores have resorted to nothing less than a filibuster. What makes it so amusing, of course, is that the filibusters are such men as Senators Lehman, Douglas, and Humphrey, the liberals who have cried loudest to high heaven about the sinfulness of the filibuster—when it was used in opposition to their pet legislation.

## Grown-Up Children

There are a great many grown-up children in the world.

That was well illustrated by two news stories

that appeared on the same page of the morning paper last Saturday.

One had to do with the barring of Charlie Chaplin, one of the great motion picture artists of all time, from America because of his alleged political views. The next step would be to outlaw any Chaplin pictures. What have the political views, whatever they may be, of the little man with the baggy trousers to do with his work as an actor?

The other occurred in Israel. There the great violinist, Jascha Heifetz, was struck on the right hand—his bowing hand—with an iron bar. And why? Because this Russian-born American artist played a selection by a German composer, Richard Strauss. Was Strauss a Nazi? Who cares, so long as his music is great music?

## Letters

### KEEP NANTAHALA FOREST AS ENTITY

Dear Mr. Jones:

Referring to your issue of April 9th, "FOREST MERGER PROTEST CARRIED TO LEGISLATORS", I see that Senator Hoey as well as Senator Smith and Congressman Shuford have been contacted by the committee, and if there are expenses incurred I shall be glad to subscribe to the effort of keeping the Nantahala National Forest as an entity.

My thought on the subject is that, although I live in the Pisgah district near Fletcher, when I am in Carolina (incidentally, I am a native, having been born at Shufordville) I know the Pisgah office is doing a good job, but feel it is wise and economical to have the Nantahala carry on as it is doing in order to obtain the best results; for one does not learn to know a territory or its people overnight and can be much more beneficial to them after some years—if Nantahala is taken over by Pisgah there is bound to be an interim in obtaining the best results.

Yours very truly,

New Orleans, La.

GEORGE G. WESTERFELDT.

### FAR OFF DOOR

Editor, The Press:

I am a soldier over here in Sasebo, Japan. I get your Press every week. It sure helps out a lot to keep up your spirits.

I get a kick out of the way the advertising says "a postcard will bring me to your door". You can tell them that my address is—

PFC. ANDREW HOLDEN

8041st Army Hospital  
APO 27,  
c/o Postmaster,  
San Francisco, Calif.  
Sasebo, Japan.

## Others' Opinions

### THE SAME OLD LINE

(Sylva Herald)

While Georgi M. Malenkov, Stalin's successor as the new Soviet Master, speaks of world peace and international co-operation, his Red fighter planes have been attacking U. S. and British planes, which is the usual line of the Soviet Bullies—talk of peace, but rattle the saber. Past history proves that the Reds are very careless with the truth. When Mr. Malenkov gives the word which would bring the Korean War to an end, then we might have some grounds on which to think that, maybe he is serious about wanting peace.

### COMING INDUSTRY

(Martin Harmon in Kings Mountain-Herald)

With spring coming, the air-conditioning folk are getting ready for a banner season. Even more than television, air-conditioning is regarded as a "comer" industry. Whereas 98 per cent of the nation's homes have at least one radio, and whereas there's about one car per family, the surface on air-conditioning has hardly been scratched. I have never been a fan man, except in the Gypsy Rose Lee sense, and I agree with the remark Earl Marlowe made the other day. "To really keep a place cool, the air must be cooled. Merely stirring air isn't enough."

### THE WOMEN STRIKE BACK

(Harnett County News)

The feminine of the human species has been dubbed the "weaker sex", ordinarily to be taken in the meaning of physical strength but also probably sometimes meant to convey mental instability. But, depend on it, friends, the women have some comebacks. Here are three of them which a lady friend of The News hands in:

First, a woman never wastes \$2 worth of shotgun shells in order to get a 25c rabbit. Second, you never heard of a woman going into a restaurant and buying a 50c meal and giving the waiter a 25c tip because he smiled at her. Third, you never heard of a woman who will use 20 gallons of gas and pay \$25 for boat hire to get where the fish are not.

### LONG TERM GAIN

(Greenville (S. C.) Observer)

It seems that labor leaders and industry alike could well agree on a program of systematic lowering of prices through increased productivity. This would be a long-term gain for all

**OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat**

**THE MORE ABUNDANT LIFE**

HERE IN AMERICA, A LUXURY SELDOM REMAINS A LUXURY FOR LONG. NOT TOO MANY YEARS AGO, THERE WERE MANY AUTOMOBILES FOR THE AVERAGE INCOME FAMILIES—AND THEN ABRUPTLY THERE WERE AUTOS FOR ALMOST EVERYONE. WHAT OUTSIDERS STILL REGARD AS LUXURY ITEMS WE CONSIDER ESSENTIALS:

RADIO

TELEVISION SETS

TELEPHONES

ELECTRIC STOVES

CAMERAS

VACUUM CLEANERS

**HOMES**

IN A SINGLE LIFETIME, INGENUITY AND INDUSTRIAL SKILL, BACKED BY THE SAVINGS OF THE PEOPLE, HAVE GIVEN US ALL THIS. WE HOLD IT CASUALLY, RARELY WONDERING—AN ABUNDANCE THAT GIVES OPPORTUNITY, TOO, FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL VALUES.

our citizens instead of an inflated advance by a few industrial workers.

When prices go down, then the workers' dollars take on an added value, and in the long run, this is a much more stable increase in buying income than an inflationary wage boost.

Old Macon County

## PICTURES out of the LONG AGO

By An OCTOGENARIAN

One of the loveliest pictures that hangs on memory's walls is that of the family altar in my grandfather's home.

I see in the background an old four-poster bed, with its draped canopy, a chest of drawers; in winter, a big open log fire occupies the foreground, on one side of which I see my grandmother seated in an easy chair, a lovely little work table on one side, a miniature chest of drawers on the other. From this she could secure almost anything that a child needed—a clean linen cloth to tie up a stubbed toe or a cut finger, strings to fly a kite, or a big pantry key, which unlocked the door to dainties to satisfy a growing child's appetite, apples, nuts, teacakes, and candy.

I see on the other side of the open fire my grandfather seated in his comfortable chair, with his candle stand, Bible, and hymn book and a lighted candle.

The family, including the servants, are gathered around the open fire. The Bible is open

in my grandfather's hands. He is not in a hurry. He reads a whole chapter from the Bible and we all join in one of the old, much loved hymns. Then follows an earnest prayer for our protection and loving care during the night; that tired Nature's sweet restorer, balmy sleep, may fit us for another day's duties, responsibilities, pleasures, hopes and fears.

This was the evening devotional. Another, similar one followed in the morning.

I think I hear a looker-on in the present day say, "We haven't time for a devotional so leisurely". Yet my recollection is that my grandparents' lives were busy ones indeed, their hours of labor far longer than those of most of us today.

Surely there is nothing more worth-while than such a family altar. In all the homes of our nation, it would tend to bring peace and joy to this busy, troubled world. Nor could there be a stronger influence on the minds and hearts of our young people, if begun in childhood and kept up through the years.

## STRICTLY

## PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

There is something comforting and encouraging—yes, and inspiring—about the way the fast-developing community spirit shows itself in the various neighborhoods of this county.

The race to get into the Rural Community Development Contest is only the latest manifestation of this spirit. It shows itself in many other ways.

Among them, the P. T. A. community suppers that have become so common, but continue to be pleasant. Last Tuesday night's supper at the Cullasaja school, where the event is an annual affair, was typical.

There was the food—its quality would have done justice to any king's table, and its quantity to any army mess sergeant. The amount of work that went into preparing the dishes for this "picnic" supper, spread on the tables in the school's new lunchroom and served cafeteria style, nobody but the women who did it can know. But they seemed to have enjoyed the preparation as much as everybody enjoyed the eating.

There was the pride in the school itself and in the accomplishments of the P. T. A.—brand new steps from the parking area to the playground, on a higher level, for example; and the fact that the association has almost enough funds

on hand to finish paying for the kitchen and lunchroom equipment; and the spontaneous applause when Mrs. Weimar Jones, district P. T. A. director, prefaced her talk by announcing that the Cullasaja lunchroom is the first in the county to get an "A" rating.

There was the informality of the program—group singing, numbers by the new Home Demonstration Clubs' choral group, directed by S. F. (Sammy) Beck, in addition to Mrs. Jones' talk.

There was the good fellowship of neighbors who, without such gatherings, might live near each other for years without really knowing each other.

And there was the hope, too evident to be overlooked, for a constantly improving school and community.

P. T. A. President W. L. Harper and his association officers are to be congratulated on what they are doing.

And that goes for the community leaders, of whatever kind, that are doing such an enthusiastic and top-notch job in neighborhoods all over the county!

Without realizing it, we are transforming our county into a far better place to live. If we could be away a few years and then come back, we simply would not believe our eyes!

## News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

I heard on the radio the other night that Ezera Taft Benson, the new Secretary of Agriculture intends to cut \$6 million dollars from the Department of Agriculture budget by discontinuing payments to farmers for soil conservation practices. Mr. Benson says that no real American wants to be subsidized.

The question that comes to my mind is why do we pay large steamship lines direct subsidy payments, why do we give the airlines subsidies for carrying the mail, why do we allow large companies to write off, in tax reductions, plants which they build for defense purposes if no real American wants a subsidy? WHY IS IT WRONG FOR THE FARMER TO ACCEPT SMALL PAYMENTS FOR IMPROVING HIS CAPITAL (that is what his land is) IF IT IS SO RIGHT FOR LARGE COMPANIES WITH HIGH SALARIED EXECUTIVES TO BE SUBSIDIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR EXPANDING THEIR BUSINESS? Maybe subsidies are wrong, but if so let's cut them out for everybody and not just pick on the farmer.

Have you ever been driving through the country and come across a small town that is so much cleaner and neater than other towns that it stands out in your memory. That is just exactly what we can do with Franklin this Spring if we will clean up, fix up, and paint up. There are many reasons why we should do this. First, Franklin should present such an appearance that will not discredit the rural communities throughout the county who are cleaning up and fixing up through the rural development contest. Second, we will find that it is good business. Franklin will certainly need what extra revenue it can derive from the tourist business this Summer, and due to highway conditions we will find it harder to get. People are more apt to stop in a clean attractive town. Let's make Franklin the cleanest most attractive town in the state. Nature has already so endowed us so that we certainly have the proper setting. A little money spent on equipment and material, lots of energy and initiative, will do the rest.

The patrons and officials of the Cullasaja school are certainly to be commended for doing one of the outstanding jobs in Macon County in the development of their school property both inside and out. They

—Continued on Back Page

## Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

### 50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Yesterday was 2,656 years ago Rome was founded. Some of our older people may have forgotten the event, nevertheless, it is history.

Rev. P. R. Young, of Buncombe County, has been visiting relatives and friends in this county this past week.

The stationery for the Bank of Franklin has arrived and the big safe is expected to arrive before many days.

### 25 YEARS AGO

This year marks the fifteenth one since purchases were started on the unit later to become the Nantahala National Forest.

The only farmers in Macon County who are opposing the county agent are those who believe a silo is some kind of a musical instrument.

If each newspaper and magazine contained a cross-word puzzle, Dr. Lyle and Major Harris would go broke buying publications.

### 10 YEARS AGO

Wylie Ledford, Kenneth Ledford, Olin Zeb McClure, and Roy Dills, who have finished their NYA course in welding, returned to Macon County for the week-end with their parents, before assignment to a ship yard.

Mrs. Roy C. Gibson and daughter, Minnie Lee, left Tuesday for Canton, Ohio, to join her husband, who is in defense work.

Major and Mrs. J. Frank Carmack arrived last week to prepare for the opening of the Franklin Lodge and Golf Course.