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JULY 30, 1953

A Truce At Last

The truces that ended the blood-letting of World Wars 1 and 2 were hailed by the whole world with almost insane joy.

The truce that ended the fighting in Korea was received with something approaching cynical indifference; even the servicemen in Korea, dispatches indicate, failed to get excited about the news.

There are at least two explanations for the indifference this time. In the first place, of course, is the fact that this has been a strange war, a war not called a war; and the further fact that there is a widespread feeling that the Korean fighting was only an incident in the cold war that was raging long before Korea, and that the cold war is likely to continue, to break into violence in some other part of the world.

The second reason is that the truce negotiations at the end of the two world wars were kept secret until the end, or nearly the end, of the negotiations, and thus there was an element of surprise. So the world, perhaps, is not quite as indifferent as it appears.

What does the truce mean? Are the cynics right when they say it means nothing?

Perhaps it does not settle anything. Perhaps it is only an incident in the struggle. Perhaps there will be fighting, in a few months, in another part of the world.

Yet the truce does mean these things; does offer these reasons for optimism:

First of all, it brings at least a temporary cessation of the killing of young men.

Second, it always is easier for two men to come to an understanding, to a reasonably just agreement, in a discussion of their differences than it is when they are slugging it out in physical violence. The same is true of nations.

Finally, the truce would seem to indicate that the present rulers of the Kremlin wanted the fighting to end. For weary month after weary month, in the past, they stalled to prevent an armistice; it was obvious they did not want the fighting to end. They could have continued to stall. The very fact that they did not suggests that they wanted an end to violence in Korea. What their reasons are is anybody's guess. But it is entirely possible that they want—for good reasons or bad—a real peace, at least for the near-future.

If a reasonably just peace can be worked out at the council table, even though it be a temporary one, that might make possible the ultimate creation of a real, lasting peace, for it is far easier to build peace on peace than on war.

Thus we cannot feel that our problems are all solved—far from it! But, on the other hand, this truce is reason for optimism, at least for more optimism than was the fighting.

Fun In Doing

This is an age of passive entertainment. We sit idly, before the radio or the television set, or in the movie, or at an athletic event, and observe others do something. The radio and the TV and the movie, of course, are great blessings, can be great educational forces. But this trend toward being entertained, instead of entertaining ourselves, has its unfortunate side; it robs us of the pleasure of participation.

For that reason, it always is significant today when people discover ways to have fun by doing; when they provide pleasure for others at the same

time, they really have hit on something worthwhile.

A local example is the Franklin Community Players. That they continue to present home-talent dramas is proof that they are having fun by doing; and the fact that they have been invited to present their current production—"Here Comes Charlie"—in Highlands, after the performances here July 30 and 31, is evidence that they bring wholesome entertainment to others.

Mrs. A. R. Kinney

Mrs. A. R. Kinney loved people. Because of that trait, she could forget herself in her interest in what others were doing, especially in what young people were doing; she was deeply sympathetic with the problems and griefs of others, and joyful with them in their successes and happiness. Her love of people she carried a step farther into devotion to the common good, and her enthusiastic labors in community endeavors will be sorely missed.

Others' Opinions

BLAMELESS?

(Charlotte News)

It was the late Sen. Kenneth Wherry who laid the blame for Korea on former Secretary of State Dean Acheson. And now Sen. William Knowland blames President Eisenhower for "breach" with Syngman Rhee.

Isn't it barely possible that Joe Stalin, in the first instance, and Syngman Rhee, in the second, had a little something to do with it?

KEEP ARMS INSIDE

(Memphis Commercial Appeal)

Granted that the state of the weather makes it a temptation to stick an arm out of a car window, the urge ought to be sternly resisted. The sight of an arm poked out of an automobile tends to make the experienced observer shudder. The fact is that a sideswipe from a passing vehicle may come any moment and can pinch off hand or arm itself in a split second. There is also an everpresent danger that the car will come so close to some other object that mutilation will result. Aside from making signals, keep those arms out of harm's way.

GAMBLING IN HOUSE OF THE LORD

(N. C. Christian Advocate)

Mrs. Irene Walhite of Flint, Mich., has sued St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church of that city for \$4,000 she claims she lost over a two-year period playing bingo in the church. Also sued is Bingo Operator Robert Kerner. Mrs. Walhite's losses, her attorney states, exceeds her earnings for that period. Well, all we have to say is that a church that promotes gambling ought to be sued. Even so, we would not say that Mrs. Walhite or anyone else who gambles should receive reimbursement for their gambling losses.

OVERHEATED ISSUE

(Charlotte Observer)

Since it was bound to happen sooner or later, it's just as well that it comes, at a time current, in the Borough of Brooklyn. A Flatbush housewife has haled a neighbor to court because the noise from the neighbor's air conditioning unit disturbs the housewife's sleep. Is the complaint valid? That's a timely question.

It is also a serious question. Air conditioning is no longer a fad. Its beginning impact on American life holds a golden promise for a future that will be atmospherically cleaner and cooler than anything man imagined in an earlier age. Will it also be noisier? And will the noise be considered a culpable offense in the eyes of the law?

Recognizing the importance of the Brooklyn action, the trial magistrate said the case is one for Supreme Court review. "Air conditioners are being installed left and right throughout Brooklyn," he declared. "The question arises: How far can a person go to get his own personal comfort at the expense of his neighbor? This is a serious matter which must be legally determined by a court of last resort."

We'd say the judge is correct. And if ever there was a case that called for cool judgment, this one appears to be it.

TIMBER!

(Raleigh News and Observer)

There are people now living who can remember when, even in its business sections, Raleigh was a city of beautiful trees. Maybe there has been good excuse for every step taken in the elimination of the trees. At any rate, almost the only evidence left that Raleigh was once "the city of oaks" is in the name of a local laundry. That may seem progress to some people. Many small towns seem to think they are made to look more urban by a combination of hot sunshine on hot concrete. On the other hand, many larger cities spend large sums in protecting the trees they possess and in planting more.

Raleigh at its present state of growth seems to be in a sort of middle mood about the business. The destruction of many large and beautiful trees in a park along Gardner Street in the western part of Raleigh may be justified, as city engineers think, in order to straighten the bed of a stream and protect paved roads beside it. The very necessity, however, of bulldozing down the trees now would seem to indicate a sort of piecemeal engineering about the business. It certainly seems strange that the pavement was laid before plans for its protection were made. Also, it seems unfortunate that the use of bulldozers on the project requires a wide path regardless of trees.

There has been much talk about city planning in Raleigh and elsewhere in recent years. Real planning would put together a design for beauty and utility. In this case some retaining walls might have saved both the trees and the pavement, if the design for the park and the design for the street had been made at the same time and with equal emphasis on both. Undoubtedly, such walls would have cost money. It is cheaper to chop the park to save the road as it is cheaper to use bulldozers than build walls. Anyhow, there still seem to be a lot of trees about in the suburbs. There will continue to be trees—or seem to be—until they are gone. Only then will it be noticed that while a bulldozer can push through a little woodland in a day or two knocking down the trees, it takes many



years for a tree to grow to the tallness and diameter of the trees which were so easily pushed down.

Planning for a city requires not only the protection of pavements but of pleasantness. It does not seem very practical planning for a modern city to consider practicality alone.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

This month's 50th anniversary of the organization of the Bank of Franklin recalls stories I heard when I was a youngster about the bank's opening. It also suggests the vast changes that have taken place here in five decades, and the great growth of this community.

The two stories that impressed me most, and that therefore have stuck in my mind, had to do with the capital stock of the institution and the task of getting the bank's safe to Franklin.

The bank opened with a capital stock of \$10,000. The law required that it have those funds on hand in gold. To meet that requirement, the entire sum was brought to Franklin from Asheville by the bank's first president, George A. Jones, in a satchel. And that in a day when there almost certainly was no insurance to cover the loss, had he been robbed!

Getting the safe here presented a problem, at a time when Franklin had neither a railroad nor a road—in the sense in which we think of roads today. It had to be hauled from Dillsboro to Franklin on a wagon, and the story, as it is recalled today, was that it took 10 teams, two or three of horses, and the rest oxen.

When the bridge across the Little Tennessee River here was reached, W. W. Jones, in charge of the operation, feared the safe, plus the 10 teams, would prove too much for the structure to support, so the teams were unhitched from the wagon, long ropes were attached to it, and scores of men, standing on the west side of the bridge, pulled the wagon across.

That safe, by the way, now is in use by the bank at Robbinsville.

During the half-century, the bank has operated in only three locations. At the time it was organized, Mr. Jones and his law partner, F. S. Johnston, had their office where W. S. Johnston is now opening a bakery. Mr. Jones, owner of the building, added a second story for the law office, and the bank moved in on the first floor.

It remained there until 1911, when it merged with the Macon County Bank, which had formed four years earlier; as a result of the merger, the old bank moved into the quarters of the newer one, on the site of the present bank. That structure burned in 1940, and for a year, while the present building was being erected, the

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

Yesterday a truce was signed in Korea. I share in part with thousands, a certain elation over the signing of this agreement which ends the firing in Korea, even though it may be only temporary. Too, I have a feeling of apprehension. I wish that some provision had been made to guarantee that the Chinese Reds would be made to withdraw from North Korea. Could it be that Korea is going to be sacrificed for a "Peace in Our Time" as Neville Chamberlain did with Czechoslovakia in the late thirties? It will be well to remember that the Munich agreement which Chamberlain took part in was but a step toward the most terrible of all wars thus far. All will have been in vain in Korea if next Spring the Chinese hordes pour out of North Korea into South Korea.

However, perhaps my misgivings are all in vain. It changes the situation which had appeared to be stalemated. It is devoutly hoped that the wisdom and skill of our leaders will be able to bring an honorable conclusion to this war that was never called a war. But in the words of President Eisenhower, an armistice that "merely releases aggressive armies to attack elsewhere will be a fraud."

While we are waiting to see what the outcome will be, our prayers should be with our leaders and there should be no attempts to pressure those charged with the responsibility of carrying out this program to bring the boys home quicker than they deem wise or attempts to cut our military spending below what they ask for. They have taken a great risk to satisfy the longings of thousands of Americans. Even though we might doubt the wisdom, we should back them wholeheartedly and not take advantage of an emotional situation to make their job more difficult.

bank operated where Jamison, Jewelers, is located now.

A second merger occurred in 1930, when the Bank of Franklin absorbed the Citizen Bank. The latter had been located in the building where the first bank started.

It is interesting to note, too, that the bank has had only six presidents and three cashiers.

Mr. Jones was succeeded, on his death in 1906, by F. S. Johnston. Following him were J. S. Sloan, Lee Crawford (promoted from cashier), Dr. W. A. Rogers, and Mark L. Dowdle, the present president.

The cashiers were J. G. Siler, Mr. Crawford, and the present cashier, Henry W. Cabe.

There must have been some apprehension about the future of the bank, when it was organized back in 1903, because its opening got only five lines.

Continued On Page Three—

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
The Press is requested to announce that the Baptist people of Iotia will meet at the new church on the Ramsey place on Wednesday, August 5, for preaching and to organize a new church.

Mr. Vivian Hill, of Dillsboro, has been visiting home people since Saturday.

The weather has been very warm during the past week and the ground is getting pretty dry.

25 YEARS AGO

And now we hear of a new breed—the Hoover Democrat. Probably a cross between a prohibitionist and a bootlegger, since both are thoroughly in favor of leaving the Volsted law untouched.

Miss Carolyn Rogers arrived in Franklin last week from Washington, D. C.

Mr. Heywood Trotter, who spent the week-end here visiting friends, returned Sunday to his duties with the Durham Herald.

10 YEARS AGO

Mrs. William Holden and small son, Billy Bryant, who have been visiting Mrs. Holden's mother, Mrs. C. H. McClure, have returned to Chicago, Ill.

Miss Margie Palmer spent last week with her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Brookshire.

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

GOOD FENCES MAKE GOOD NEIGHBORS

HERE IN AMERICA, BACK FENCES TRADITIONALLY HAVE BEEN BUILT TO BE TALKED ACROSS—AN INVITATION TO NEIGHBORLINESS, WHILE AFFORDING A CERTAIN PRIVACY.



ACTUALLY, THE IDEA OF BUILDING FENCES AS A BARRIER HAS NEVER TAKEN HOLD STRONGLY IN AMERICA. THE IDEA OF FREEDOM OF THE INDIVIDUAL, GUARANTEED IN OUR CONSTITUTION, HAS WORKED BECAUSE, GENERATION AFTER GENERATION, WE HAVE BEEN RAISED TO RESPECT THE DIGNITY AND RIGHTS OF OTHERS.