

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

Entered at Post Office, Franklin, N. C., as second class matter.
Published every Thursday by The Franklin Press
Franklin, N. C. Telephone 24

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OUTSIDE MACON COUNTY	INSIDE MACON COUNTY
One Year \$3.00	One Year \$2.50
Six Months 1.75	Six Months 1.75
Three Months 1.00	Three Months 1.00

JANUARY 21, 1954

Part Of The Dream

Urging action to halt the trek of industry from the East to the South, Louis C. Hollander declares the South is "not a part of the United States, either politically or economically".

Could be, Mr. Hollander, you're right.

But it also could be that New York isn't.

Fortunately for each, the other still is in the Union. Fortunately, too, Americans—with the exception of a few Hollanders, both North and South—recognize the wide differences in various parts of this nation are what make America great. Recognize, too, that tolerance of difference is a part of the American dream.

Automobiles And Schools

You don't invest two or three thousand dollars in an automobile or a truck, and then try to operate it without oil. You don't, that is, if you are a person of good sense.

The same situation applies to our new schools.

We've invested a million dollars in buildings, and it's just like buying oil for a car to provide whatever funds are necessary to properly maintain them.

And you don't invest money in an automobile or truck, and then just put it in the garage and never use it. You don't, that is, if you want to get a return on your investment.

Again the same thing applies to our schools.

If we're going to get dividends on our million-dollar school investment, there is just one way to get them: Provide the most possible education for the greatest possible number.

There are various ways to do that, but one of the most important, especially in a rural county like Macon, is to offer opportunities for vocational education.

We all agree that the children at Highlands and Nantahala should be taught English and history and mathematics and foreign languages; those things are basic. But we aren't being fair to the youngsters at those schools if we deny them the opportunity to learn something about a vocation also.

The county board of education plans to ask the board of county commissioners for \$80,000 next year for school maintenance and equipment and expansion of vocational education. This newspaper is not in position to pass on the amount asked—the figure may be too large or it may be too small. Nor are we sufficiently familiar with the commissioners' problems to suggest them exactly how they should meet the situation.

It's clear for all to see, though, that we are in the position of a man who has invested in an automobile or truck. He would be foolish indeed to try to operate it without oil, or to put it in the garage and never use it.

Bouquets

Congratulations to Franklin Baptists on the approaching completion of their new education plant. This, of course, is only the first phase of an ambitious building program of the First Church.

Felicitations are due Franklin Methodists, too, on the badly needed annex they are constructing.

Both these projects are of interest to the entire community; because the better the churches in a community, the better the community. Moreover, progress in one church almost invariably spurs progress in others.

And a bouquet is due the Town of Highlands for building a city hall. After all, the most important business in any town is the public's business, as represented by the municipal government, and surely the public's business corporation should have its

own home. That is especially true in Highlands, since it has more municipally-operated services than most towns.

Rotarian C. S. Brown is the hustling man behind the scenes of many Rotary Club projects—particularly the annual banquet honoring the Franklin High football team. His efforts continue to assure the success of the event. At last Wednesday night's banquet, members of the squad received small gold footballs through the Rotary Club. But Mr. Brown was the man who purchased them, and, of course, he chose to keep this unpublicized. On this point, this newspaper refuses to cooperate—Mr. Brown, we salute you!

ONE VIEWPOINT

Peace And Surrender

From The Durham SUN

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The editorial below is now reprinted because it represents this newspaper's viewpoint. In some respects, it does not; we find it hard to go along, for example, with the statement that, in the present international impasse, "the fault is entirely Russia's". It is reprinted, however, as a strong, well reasoned presentation of ONE viewpoint.)

The Sun is in receipt of a letter which it is not sure it appreciates. While it may have been written in good faith and in a patriotic spirit, it is one in which The Sun cannot concur. It comes from the National Council for Prevention of War. Presumably, the National Council for Prevention of War is an earnest and sincere aggregation. It lists as participating organizations the Brethren Service Commission, Church of the Brethren, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the National Reform Association, the Peace Board of the Five Years Meeting, the United Society of Friends Women and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. We are, lamentably, wholly unacquainted with any one of them; but some seem to have the tone of pacifism about them.

We are reduced, at the moment, then, to consideration of the letter, itself. It is mimeographed and addressed, "Dear Editor," by which we assume that it has been addressed to all newspapers editors.

Let's take the letter paragraph by paragraph, insofar as it is germane:

Aren't your readers more interested in peace than they are in victory in cold war?

The Sun's readers, it believes, are interested in peace and in victory in the cold war because victory in the cold war may be requisite to peace. Certainly, defeat in the cold war could, in view of the aims of the ruling Russian dictators, be fatal to peace. It is not, then, a matter of alternatives. The phrasing and the proposition are tricky and misleading. Assuredly, defeat for the United States in the cold war is not the way to peace.

Haven't you found that they long to see President Eisenhower make a bold landing on the Normandy coast of peace?

The sentence is a flamboyant flourish which means nothing. What would be a "bold landing on the Normandy coast of peace"? Does the National Council for Prevention of War mean that it would have the President embrace verbatim the treacherous proposals and conditions of the Soviet Union which are as devoid of real meaning as this second paragraph?

President Eisenhower, long since, has made a bold landing on the Normandy coast of peace. On April 16, 1953, the President said:

First: No people on earth can be held—as a people—to be an enemy, for all humanity shares the common hunger for peace and fellowship and justice.

Second: No nation's security and well-being can be lastingly achieved in isolation, but only in effective co-operation with fellow-nations.

Third: Every nation's right to a form of government and an economic system of its own choosing is inalienable.

Fourth: Any nation's attempt to dictate to other nations their form of government is indefensible.

And fifth: A nation's hope of lasting peace cannot be firmly based upon any race in armaments, but rather upon just relations and honest understanding with all other nations.

And further, the President said:

We seek, throughout Asia as throughout the world, a peace that is true and total.

Out of this can grow a still wider task—the achieving of just political settlements for the other serious and specific issues between the free world and the Soviet Union.

None of these issues, great or small, is insoluble—given only the will to respect the rights of other nations.

Again we say: The United States is ready to assume its just part.

That is the President's position and the American position on world peace and order. The question, it seems to The Sun, is not why the United States has not accepted the Russian pretensions but why the Soviet Union has not accepted President Eisenhower's equitable statement of international principles and basis for peace.

The State Department's fear of the difficulties of making peace, and fear even of a top-level conference with Malenkov, is blocking progress. The first year of the Eisenhower administration is nearing its end with nothing except the merciful Korean truce to its credit in this field. Yet it was on the promise of peace that the President's campaign for election was successfully waged.

The Sun hopes it shall not, itself, fall into McCarthyism; but that paragraph, to it, has almost the sound of disloyalty on two counts: (1) the sly use of the word "fear" and (2) the declaration that the United States is blocking progress. The State Department does not fear difficulties or Malenkov. It recognizes the difficulties because of Malenkov's obvious lack of good faith and it is disgusted with, not fearful of, the Russian top Red puppet. It is one thing which may be said to the credit of the Eisenhower administration that it did achieve the Korean truce which the Truman administration had already set in motion. The President is still maintaining his promise to

seek peace and, were it not for the Russians and Red China, Russia's associate in aggression and other international crimes, he might, indeed, have achieved peace even at this absurdly early date.

As for the State Department's willingness to seek peace through any conference with any power, when such a conference bears any promise of purpose or progress, it and the President are presently preparing for the Bermuda meeting. It is skeptical but it is nonetheless ready, as Secretary Dulles this week has stated, to participate in even a four-power conference including Malenkov, when the Soviet proposals can be reduced to "some manageable form for a meeting," or when Moscow will permit "any fresh breath of freedom" behind the Iron Curtain.

Do you honestly believe that this is "all Russia's fault?" No European statesman would agree with that statement.

We have an idea one European statesman might be found who would agree; but we are not too much concerned with European opinion on that particular question. For ourselves, we do, indeed, believe (and we do not care for the insinuation as to our intellectual honesty) that the fault is entirely Russia's!

The NCFPOW letter does seem to present alternatives but they are not "victory in the cold war" or "peace." Rather they seem to be "victory" or "surrender." The NCFPOW appears to advocate peace through surrender—abject surrender to aggression, the thesis being that, if Russia will not yield, the State Department should. That, we believe, the State Department cannot do if it represents The Sun's readers. That it cannot do unless it betray the United States and the other free nations of the earth.

Letters

HE LIKES US

Dear Friends,

I have enjoyed getting The Press, and I can see it runs out 2/24/54. I am sending a money order for \$3. I would like for you to renew it for another year. Although I won't be here for a year, I can change my address to home when I get ready to leave here. It has really meant a lot to me, especially since I came overseas. I enjoy getting it. Hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Yours truly,

APO 541, c/o P. M.
New York, N. Y.

JAMES G. WILLIS

THE BAR AND THE PRESS

Dear Editor:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of the 13th inst. extending my subscription to The Franklin Press.

I feel that The Press has done, and is doing, a wonderful service to Macon County. Did it ever occur to you that the two agencies which play the major part in forming public opinion is that of the newspaper and the bar of attorneys in each county? For that reason it is of vital importance that editors and attorneys conscientiously endeavor to lead the people in the right path in the solution of problems confronting the community. However, it is my opinion that the one single force which has made Macon County great is the religious tendency of its citizenship, as can be evidenced by the great number of churches in the county, even though many of them may have a small percentage of attendance. The church and its influence is the one thing that gives the citizen a clear mind and steady foot through life.

With very kindest regards to you and yours, I am,

Cordially yours,

Burnsville, N. C.

DOVER R. FOUTS

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

It surely was good to see higher there because of a city tax.

The question was purely for information; I wasn't griping about the two cents at all. But she must have thought I was, because she snapped back: "Everything has to be higher in a bus station."

Nothing was said about it at the conference, but I am quite sure the Macon County delegation came the farthest distance for this exchange of ideas between officials, on the one hand, and newspaper, radio, and television folks, on the other, on how to keep the public informed about the public's business.

For my money, the best thing that came out of the day-long discussion was the remark of Judge Johnson J. Hayes, of the U. S. district court, that "publicity is the terror of tyranny". Incidentally, to hear this Republican jurist thus deliver a strictly Jeffersonian bit of philosophy illustrates how far we have gotten away from purely partisan politics, in our thinking, at least.

In Greensboro recently, I bought a package of cigarettes at the bus station. The price was 23 cents.

Recalling that cigarettes are 20 cents, or less, in Franklin, and that they are 21 in Chapel Hill, I wondered about the difference. I remembered hearing somebody say that certain cities have a municipal tax on cigarettes, so I asked the attendant in the bus station if they were

never seem to learn.

A friend was telling me the
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News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

During the election campaign with his eye out for votes, President Eisenhower, in speaking to a large group of farmers at the farmers day program said he was for parity—"In fact," he said, "we should work not for 90% parity but a 100% parity". Those words and that speech will haunt Mr. Eisenhower for two reasons. This particular speech was when he was to set forth how his administration would stand on farm problems and parity was the crux of the situation. Now Mr. Eisenhower is going all out for a "flexible" price support program which at times would drop as low as 50 or 60% of parity. The mid-west farmers who listened to "Ike" that day, and there were over a hundred thousand there, are demanding a "fixed" price support program based on 90% of parity. The hard part about it, is that this price support incentive policy has already produced a great surplus and unless it is controlled it could grow to such proportions that it would tear down our economy to finance it. The hard fact is, and no politician seems to have the guts to tell the farmer that, that if you are going to have price supports you must have crop control. You can't guarantee a man a high price for all he will produce and then put no limit on his production. If the farmer isn't willing to accept crop control on the products he receives a guaranteed price for, he will eventually have to return to the hazardous system where he planted a crop with no idea of what he would receive for what he raised. You pay your money and take your choice, but you can't have your cake and eat it too.

Mr. Eisenhower seems to be trying to eliminate price supports without saying so. It would take courage, but it seems to me that he would be better off to come out and say we will give you price supports based on the 100% parity I promised during my election campaign, but if we do we will have to limit the amount you can produce. Then let the farmers take their choice.

I don't know who did it or how, but someone has certainly misled our senior Senator from North Carolina, Clyde R. Hooper. He is supporting the Bricker Amendment which in the conduct of our foreign affairs is a throw back to the days of

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Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Mr. Jule Robinson returned from Asheville Saturday accompanied by Mrs. Thad Coleman, of Buncombe, and Miss Ola Siler, of Waynesville, who will spend several days with relatives here.

Mr. J. M. Dalton, of Cowee, was in town Saturday and called in to look after his subscription. "Gum" would rather do without sugar in his coffee than let the PRESS stop going to his home.

Attorney Sam L. Kelly has been laid up the past week with the mumps. He ought to sue out an injunction and stop the proceedings.

25 YEARS AGO

Lester Henderson has bought an interest in the Sluder-Garrett Furniture Company and assumed active charge of the business as manager Monday.

The Porter-Higdon building next to the Citizens bank is nearing completion.

The hog, the cow, and the little red hen, will greatly enrich the poorest of men.

Your neighbor may not say anything, but he does a heap o' thinking when you borrow his newspaper.

10 YEARS AGO

Oran J. Cunningham, film technician at a motion picture studio, has returned to Hollywood, Calif., after spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cunningham, of Route 3.

A group of 26 soldiers from Clemson College was royally entertained here the past weekend through a PTA sponsored Home Hospitality Committee.

A. C. Holt left last week for his usual winter's vacation of several weeks in St. Petersburg, Fla. (Highlands Highlights).