

The Franklin Press
and
The Highlands Maconian

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One Way

For quite a while now the columnists have been saying it's up to President Eisenhower to put Senator McCarthy in his place. Mr. Eisenhower seems to feel it's up to the Senate. The Democratic senators say it's up to the Republican members. And the majority of Republican senators can't, or won't, do anything.

So maybe it's up to you and me.

What can we do? Well, we pay taxes; and what gives McCarthy his power is the tax money Congress hands over to him, to hire a staff, pay spies, travel over the country, etc.

If enough of us refused to pay any federal taxes until Congress stopped appropriating these huge sums, of OUR money, for McCarthy's antics—if enough people did that, we have an idea something would happen in Washington, and quickly!

A Good Idea

Good ideas that are new usually seem so simple and so obvious, the wonder is they weren't thought of long before.

An instance is a development at Otto. There a community library has been opened to the public. Not only are books available for lending, but good magazines are to be found in the reading room. And one of the best features is the plan to operate the community library, which is housed at the school, in cooperation with the school's library; thus all the books in both will be available both to the public and to the school children.

Like so many worth-while projects in this county, this one was fathered by the local community development organization.

If the Otto organization should never develop another project—and undoubtedly it will develop many more—we'd guess this community library alone will justify, many times over, the organization's existence.

Vital To Us, Too

Construction of any needed road anywhere in Western North Carolina helps every part of Western North Carolina.

Thus, whether they realize it or not, the people of Haywood County have a vital interest in the Cowee Gap highway, in Macon and Jackson Counties; and people in Macon and Jackson have a stake in highways in Haywood.

A case in point is the Pigeon River road, now under construction, between Newport, in Coker County, Tennessee, and Waynesville, in Haywood. In that particular road, though, we in this area have a specific interest. It almost surely will prove a feeder for our Asheville-Atlanta highway; providing a direct connection between the Midwest and the South, and making Franklin and this section more easily available to tourists from the Midwest. Incidentally, the Pigeon River road, due to its relatively low altitude, should be what the Soco Gap road is not, an all-weather highway.

So this newspaper hopes Highway Commissioner Harry Buchanan will be successful in his efforts to get the Pigeon River road put on the interstate system, and thus make it available for federal aid funds; obtaining such funds undoubtedly would speed its completion.

Add similies: As unusual as a local auto tag on a Highlands street in summer.

For years we've been talking about stream pollution; and the situation has got no better. Maybe it's time to try a simple solution—just stop polluting the streams.

New Postal Job

In a franked envelope from the Post Office Department, there comes to this office an announcement that "many children are victims of blasting cap accidents each year".

And so "the Post Office Department and Bureau of Mines today joined forces in a nation-wide educational campaign to alert boys and girls to the danger of blasting caps".

That is a worthy objective. No one will question the desirability of such a campaign.

There is a question, however, as to whether this is a proper function of the Post Office Department. We had thought the department's job was to carry the mail.

We also seem to remember that the Post Office Department has been complaining, for a long time now, that it hasn't enough funds to do even that job well.

Religion -- and Flowers

Isn't it possible that creating beauty is a form of religious worship?

If that is true, then it is particularly true here in Western North Carolina, because nowhere, perhaps, are people blessed with so much God-given beauty; and surely we can best show our gratitude for this gift by trying, in our small way, to add to the natural beauty that is all about us.

And what simpler, easier, more appropriate way than by growing flowers!

So The Press removes its hat to the Franklin and Highlands garden clubs as they prepare for their annual flower shows, July 31-August 1 and August 14-15, respectively.

Though they probably have not thought of it so, when they encourage flower growing, it seems to us, they are encouraging a spirit of religious gratitude.

Others' Opinions

WHAT THEY SEE HERE

(Franklin Lions Club Bulletin)

Visitors coming to Franklin over our four principal highways see the following between the city limits and the Main Street business section:

1. 152 bill boards and signs shouting about everything from supersonic snuff to chittlin' stumps.
2. 4 junkyards decorating the landscape.
3. ? truckloads of trash and dirt on the streets.
4. 1 faded, weed-hidden sign which whispers "Welcome, Franklin is a good place to live".

REWARDS OF A PUBLIC SERVANT

(Shelby Cleveland Times)

It is interesting to note what a conscientious public servant may expect from his country and his countrymen in the United States of America at mid-Twentieth Century.

The case of Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer should be an excellent illustration, since Dr. Oppenheimer is the foremost "hero" of American physics, or to put it another way the Christopher Columbus of atomic power.

It was Dr. Oppenheimer, in the service of our country, who more than any other one man gave this nation the key of advent to a new age in human history.

Nine short years later—now—he is hounded out of public service, without a monument, without a resolution of thanks, with not even an expression of regret.

We use our public servants with appalling contempt. The past President of the United States less than a year ago was seared with the brand of treason by supposedly responsible men. The Prometheus of the atom, by whose labors and loyalty this nation became the first possessor of nuclear power, is now disgraced and banned from his own secrets.

This is a sad commentary on the contemporary American character.

It is a sadder commentary on our lack of realism in how to defend free enterprise, free government and democracy against the rising might of Communism.

JUST 25 YEARS AGO

Highlands Rejoins North Carolina

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following feature story, a reprint of an article in The Asheville Times, appeared in The Press July 18, 1929—25 years ago this week.)

North Carolina's good roads are about to redeem another "lost" region of the state.

For over a half a century that section of Macon county in which the little town of Highlands is situated has been a part of South Carolina—in everything but name.

But at last it is about to come back into North Carolina, thanks to means of transportation—and North Carolinians are waking up to the fact that,

while they have been neglecting this rough and beautiful country, the people of other states have seen its possibilities and literally taken the region over.

Witness just two facts: Citizens of Louisiana, South Carolina, Georgia and half a dozen other states have gone to Highlands once, and then returned a second time to build as beautiful summer homes as may be found anywhere in Western North Carolina; and today Georgia capitalists, with the cooperation of Highlands business men, are constructing a golf course, up there on the top of the world, that has been de-

OUR DEMOCRACY—by Mat

"HORSEBACK OPINION"

FROM THE EARLY DAYS, WHEN JUDGES RODE AROUND THEIR CIRCUITS ON HORSEBACK AND SOMETIMES DELIVERED THEMSELVES OF RULINGS WITHOUT DISMOUNTING, WE'VE DERIVED THE FIGURE OF SPEECH "HORSEBACK OPINION". IT MEANS A QUICK, NOT FULLY CONSIDERED OPINION, USUALLY GIVEN WHEN AN IMMEDIATE RESPONSE IS WANTED—AND THAT'S ITS JUSTIFICATION.

WHEN IT COMES TO VOTING, HOWEVER, IT IS OUR DUTY AND OUR PRIVILEGE AS CITIZENS TO OPINION AND WEIGH ALL THE FACTS WE CAN ABOUT THE ISSUES AND THE CANDIDATES, AND THEN, IN NOVEMBER, TO VOTE—AND CONSIDER OUR OPINION AT THE POINT.

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite
© By BOB SLOAN

A little more than a year ago local people tried to keep the new administration of the Federal government from combining the Nantahala forest with the Pisgah forest. This was labeled an economy measure. Local persons familiar with the situation doubted very much that money would be saved. This paper questioned the position. One of the reasons, many of us felt that all the economy they talked about would not be obtained was that we felt that we would not get the same service from the Forest Service that we had through the years. A trip to Arrowwood, popular local picnic area seems to bear this out. The place is the dirtiest and the most run down that I have ever seen it. As is often the case when someone talks about saving money they just mean they will give less service. If the Forest Service is saving any money on the Nantahala-Pisgah merger any satisfaction they are enjoying should be offset by the fact that they are sure giving less service.

Something very essential to Franklin if we want to get any tourist dollars is good recreation facilities. The Franklin golf course and swimming pool are one of the few attempts to meet this need. Both the Franklin Jaycees and Mr. T. W. Angel, Jr., Mr. Frank Duncan, and Mr. and Mrs. George R. Pattillo are to be commended for the fine work they have done there. However, because of the water problem, a lot of development capital is needed for both the golf course and the pool. If either the chamber of commerce or the town of Franklin could raise from fifty to seventy-five thousand dollars to be loaned on a long time loan basis and at very low interest rate to develop the pool and golf course it would be a very good investment. Both the people who buy Summer homes and those who stay at tourist courts want recreational facilities. Swimming and golf are musts for a lot of people on their vacations. I doubt that the golf course and pool would make their money back for a long time but the additional money spent by the people they would bring and help hold here would be many many times the cost. In the meantime the local people would have the benefit of better recreational facilities.

Otto Wildlife Club Plans Meeting Friday

The Otto Wildlife Club will hold its monthly meeting at the school tomorrow (Friday) night at 8 o'clock, it was announced this week by the president, Gline Holland.

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Mr. R. L. Porter had his wheat threshed out last week on his Gribble farm, and it turned out 816 bushels of fine quality. He sold it and delivered it direct from the thresher to the Harris Roller Mill for \$1.00 per bushel.

Messrs. Lee Crawford and Will Sloan with their families are camping on Wayah Bald a few weeks.

Mr. R. Furman Jarrett, of Waynesville, is spending this week here with his parents.

25 YEARS AGO

Two Boy Scouts, Billy Sloan and Tony Welch, last week were installed as first class Scouts before a Court of Honor composed of J. S. Conley, Dick Jones, Major S. A. Harris, and the Scoutmaster, Rev. J. A. Flanagan.

Mrs. S. T. Ramsey and granddaughters, Misses Lola and Jessie Ramsey, have returned from a week's visit with friends and relatives in Georgia.

10 YEARS AGO

1st Lieut. Charles R. Hunnicutt, son of Mrs. Blanche Hunnicutt, Franklin, and husband of Mrs. Martha E. Hunnicutt, Leatherman, has been decorated with the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pvt. Harry Kinsland, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Kinsland, of Route 4, who is stationed at Kingman Air Base, Kingman, Ariz., is home on a furlough.

clared by men who know to give promise of being as fine as any in the South.

Highlands has, certainly, two distinctions: It lays claim to being the highest incorporated town in the east; and it undoubtedly is the most cosmopolitan community in the South.

Year 'round residents—quest for beauty brought some, while that for health drew others—are there from all over the world.

And the third chapter is being written today. The state is constructing as a part of No. 28, a road direct from Highlands to Franklin.

The state is building a road—and how!

Rather, the state is blasting out a road.

And what a road! It follows the course of the Cullasaja river, rising some 1500 feet in a few miles, and stands, at some points, 250 feet above the river's gorge, with the rock dropping sheer from the road to the cataract at the bottom of the mountain. Above, the rock towers straight up again.

For a distance of 1,000 horizontal feet, here is the procedure that was followed: From the top of the cliff, above where the road now stands, men were lowered by ropes to the point where the highway was to be cut out of the granite. Holes were drilled, "loaded", and the dynamite blasts set off. Then the same process was repeated.

This point is near one of the three beautiful falls along this stretch of No. 28, that, for scenery, combines waterfall, precipitous and frowning gray stone cliffs, and vistas of distant mountains. The second, "Dry" falls, long famous for the fact that one can walk, dry, underneath the rock over which the river pours.

And at the third waterfall the highway engineers, through accident or intent, have done something that will draw exclamation from the most blasé. Coming from Highlands, the motorist suddenly rounds a curve to see almost directly

above him Bridal Veil falls. The water leaps gracefully from a rock overhanging the road, and strikes the outer edge of the highway, random drops rattling on the top of the car as the machine passes underneath it.

It is appropriately named. The water is that of a comparatively small tributary of the Cullasaja, and as it nears the top of a cliff, on the outer edge of the road, its spray is hardly more than mist.

The grading of the road is practically complete, after two years of work. Plans are to harden the road surface. Highway commission officials estimate that the grading will be complete within about two months. It is 20 miles in length.

About a year ago a group of Atlanta business men, golfing bent, "discovered" Highlands. Thereupon Highlands Estates, Inc., was organized, and work was begun on the Highlands golf course and country club. The group includes, among others, Robert T. Jones, father of Bobby Jones. A number of Highlands business men also own stock.

Four hundred acres was purchased, much of it thick-set in rhododendron and laurel, and work began. The 18-hole golf course, when completed, will have cost approximately \$75,000.

The almost complete club house was burned last April, but work was almost immediately begun on a new structure, which will be finished in about three months at a cost of \$75,000. The size of the building can be visualized by pointing out that it will be almost a quarter of a mile around. A formal opening is planned for next June.

The course itself, nine holes of which are complete, was laid off by Donald Ross, noted golf architect. It has as smooth and velvety a turf—where a few months ago was wilderness—as could be imagined, surrounded by strikingly beautiful mountain scenery, with water practically always in view. On one side is the municipal lake, on

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STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

Aren't people funny?

They think it's terrible for a politician to vote anything but the straight ticket in an election, but they never bat an eye, once that same politician is elected to Congress, when he teams up with the Republican (or Democratic) opposition on legislative issues.

They eat too much, smoke too much, and drink too much—and wonder why so many other people (of course it won't happen to them!) die of high blood pressure and heart attacks.

If they're white women, they spend thousands of dollars to put a curl in their hair; if they're Negro women, they spend thousands to take it out.

Customers think it's terrible that local merchants don't carry full stocks—and order from mail order houses without looking to see if the local merchant has what they want. And merchants let their stocks run

down—and complain because people order from out of town.

They spend millions of dollars for cold drinks to cool off in hot weather, when a warm drink is much more effective for the purpose.

They boast about our great churches and schools in America—but spend more for alcohol and tobacco than for churches and schools combined. Wonder why they don't boast about the things they really value, as indicated by the way they spend their money?

They wear a lot of loud clothes their parents wouldn't have been caught dead in—but refer to people who talk in loud tones as vulgar.

They endanger their own and other people's lives driving at a mad rate, only to arrive early and get bored waiting for appointments that wasn't important in the first place.

Yes, sir; people are funny. That is, everybody but us.