

The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

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APRIL 28, 1955

Part Of Old Fight

Much has been made of the part played by racial feeling in the decision of the General Assembly to drop such men as Dr. Clarence Poe and L. P. McLendon from the board of trustees of the University of North Carolina.

Dr. Poe and Mr. McLendon, along with others, became marked men, it is said, when they voted to permit Negro and white county agents to sit together in class, at annual refresher courses at N. C. State College. (Representatives of the two races would eat and room separately.)

This may have been the immediate cause of the firing of Dr. Poe, Mr. McLendon, and others. But we suspect the motive lies deeper. For this is not the first time outstanding, long-time members of the board have been dropped. Two years ago, for example, such members as Collier Cobb, Jr., Mrs. Laura Cone, Kenneth Tanner, and John Sprunt Hill were dismissed. And other Legislatures have dropped still others who had served long and well.

There is considerable evidence that this latest action really is a part of a struggle that has been going on for decades; that it is part of the effort of the Tory element in North Carolina business (and of course all North Carolina business is not Tory) to gain control of the University.

So long as Frank Graham was at Chapel Hill, this element was balked — hence the unreasoning hatred of Graham. Since Graham's departure, it has been making progress. Liberal after liberal (many of them business men) has been dropped from the board. And a tangible evidence of what is happening is the way the School of Business Administration at Chapel Hill — and the kind of thinking it represents — is rapidly overshadowing the rest of the institution.

Basically, what has just happened probably is part of the age-old clash between those, on the one hand, who believe an educated man faces facts as they are and tries to think things through, no matter how unpleasant the conclusions; and those, on the other, who consider any freedom that would endanger the status quo gross sacrilege.

Thankful For Congress

The people of Western North Carolina should be thankful for Congress.

Because it is to Congress credit is due for the fact there are to be no tolls on the Blue Ridge Parkway.

State officials, chambers of commerce, newspapers, and the general public could have shouted themselves hoarse, but all their protests would have had no effect on the appointive officials of the National Park Service. Congress, in answer to public appeals, got action.

This is the perfect illustration of the fact that Congress, whatever its faults, is the one agency that stands between the people and the bureaucracies of the executive department.

Call For Emotion

Governor Hodges made a penetrating remark in a speech in Charlotte Saturday night.

The people of North Carolina, the governor pointed out, "have come through many periods when they could not see the sun for the clouds". We have won out because "we have refused to give in to the forces of defeat and pessimism."

In the "crisis in our life" brought about by the Supreme Court's segregation ruling, "we must not fail".

Then he commented:

"Emotions are stronger and more powerful than thought and reason."

We Americans are constantly admonished to re-

ly on thought and reason, rather than emotion. Often there is the implication that we should be ashamed of emotion. It is true, of course, that emotion needs the check-rein of thought and reason; but it is equally true that emotion is the motive power of our society, as well as of our personal lives.

The governor wisely recognizes that, and would have North Carolinians call on their better emotions in this "crisis" — the emotions of calmness, courage, and prayer.

To lick this problem, we'll need thought and reason aplenty. But, in the final analysis, we'll lick it only as we summon those qualities Governor Hodges urges — calmness, courage, and prayer.

Others' Opinions

IT HAPPENS EVERY YEAR

(Helen F. Jackson in Morganton News-Herald)

Spring comes to the Carolinas like a dancer in pink tulle slipping onto a bare brown stage.

The orchestra is still playing winter music, with crashing brass and wailing woodwinds, when the tulle catches in the bare branches of a crab tree and bursts into frothy pink bloom.

Other dancers follow in frilly white, leaving the woods alight with dogwood and then the music pauses and becomes muted, as the rain nymphs fill the stage in clouds of swirling gray mist.

The stage darkens briefly, the music swings into bird song, and in the gathering light the dancers steal away leaving footprints of daffodils in the greening earth.

SECRECY AND SAFETY, TOO

(Raleigh News and Observer)

The idea that the only people who deserve protection in connection with highway crimes are those who commit them dies hard in this Legislature.

Now comes a new bill by Representative Edwin Pou of Wake which would make secret the records of driving license suspensions and revocations. Everybody who knows anything in North Carolina knows that one of the most serious problems in highway safety is the frequent action of people whose licenses have been suspended driving all the same. Obviously, to keep a closely guarded secret the fact that the licenses of such people have been suspended would serve their arrogant disregard of the law and of the safety of other people.

This Legislature has gone far in keeping secret from the people much of the legislative process. If it should begin now in an endeavor to cover up also the results of judicial processes, we should really be embarked upon something. It is quite probable, of course, that some of those whose behavior at the wheel has been such that their licenses have been revoked would like to cover that fact. It is probable, indeed, that most people convicted of law violations on the highway or anywhere else would like to hide it from their friends, neighbors and fellow citizens. It would be better, however, to keep secret the names of law violators who are in prison than those of people who are not supposed to be driving on the roads but who, particularly if secrecy helped them, might very well be.

In terms of both secrecy and safety, no bill introduced at this session is so directly designed to distort sound public policy for the benefit of those who threaten the public safety.

• Letters

MORE ABOUT HATS

Editor, The Press:

I wish to refer you to The National Geographic Magazine, February, 1951. In it you will find "American Processional; History on Canvas". The pictures give some idea of how the

The Smithfield Herald

Why Is Red China Hostile To U. S.?

"Regardless of what the President or the State Department may say to the contrary, we cannot absolve ourselves of a share in the blame for creating a crisis in the Far East."

Thus does Harold G. Gelwicks, writing in The Christian Century, commit the heresy of suggesting that our side of the world as well as the Communist side may be lacking in righteousness. Mr. Gelwicks, a former Army intelligence officer, spent years in China during World War II and after the war. He writes out of a background of on-the-scene experience.

Without condoning evil acts of the Chinese Communists, he reminds us that the Chinese Communists have "an arguable case" as well as the United States.

What is the case of Communist China?

"The simple and inescapable facts are that since 1945 the United States has been intervening in the Chinese civil war, and that as a consequence we have earned the hostility of the Chinese Communist government," writes Mr. Gelwicks. "The crisis we have faced in

Korea, Indo-China and Formosa are inseparably linked to these basic facts."

Our intervention was legal, but it "exposed us to the likelihood of being held accountable for our actions by the Chinese Communists, and to the application of whatever sanctions they could muster."

We armed and equipped Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalist government before it had to flee the mainland.

After Chiang's flight we withheld recognition of the Chinese Communist regime even though that regime had demonstrated that it had control of the mainland.

We endeavored to prevent other nations from recognizing Communist China.

We have continued to give material assistance, military supplies and military advice to Chiang's fugitive government on Formosa — the arch enemy of the Chinese Communists.

We have supported Chiang's attacks against the mainland.

All these things we have done, and many of us have assumed that we not only had the legal right to do them, but we had the moral duty to oppose Com-

people dressed and the hats they wore during the 19th century. The hats are very much like the ones described in the April 14 issue of The Press.

Various forms of hats have been worn, beginning with the ancient Greeks and Romans; felt hats were worn during the Middle Ages; velvet was in vogue in Tudor times; a low crowned hat decorated with feathers was worn by the 17th century Cavaliers. Silk hats were known in the 14th century. Straw hats and berles date from 1850. In the 19th century the soft hat or fedora became the style. The fedora is a felt hat creased lengthwise (unusual) with a rolled brim, from Sardon's play "Fedora".

Sincerely,

(MISS) MILDRED ELEANOR JACKSON.

Highlands.

Education makes a people easy to lead but difficult to drive; easy to govern but impossible to enslave.—Lord Brougham.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

The eagerness, the faith and courage, of youth make it always appealing. And present-day youth has a clear-eyed honesty and realism that command respect.

I was reminded of that when I read a couple of letters I've had recently. Two passages will illustrate — and they are much too good not to pass along.

The friend who wrote is a young man in the army, now on the sea, sailing to Korea.

In the first letter, written while he was still in the East, he was anticipating the trip across the continent:

"Tomorrow I entrain for the West Coast and thence, after an undetermined number of days or weeks of waiting, I will be off for the Far East. I'm still little boyish about trucks and trains and that sort of thing . . . could ride in the cab of a big tractor-trailer for days just to hear the Diesel roar and watch the intricate gear shifting. If I'm that big of a fool about trucks, you can imagine my passion for trains. Besides the thrill of a transcontinental train ride, there's the rewarding roll call of exciting American cities: Richmond, Washington, Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Spokane, etc."

The second letter came from a West Coast army fort:

"While I've got a typewriter handy, I'll let you in on a secret: A transcontinental train ride is enough to fire any man's imagination. I can think of no better spiritual sendoff for a man going overseas in the Army than the lapping up of all that Americana in three days. Gives you a warm patriotic feeling that makes you want to stand up on the parapets and shout in freedom's name."

Then, because he is a member of today's young generation, he added:

"I'll see how much of my reaction is false when I get into my Korean foxhole next month."

As long as young Americans think and feel and write like that, this country has little cause for fear.

I was much interested in the mottoes of the various states, published the other day by Sam Ragan in his News and Observer column, "Southern Accent".

All 48 have mottoes except Ohio. I had taken it for granted

that all state mottoes were in Latin, like North Carolina's "Esse Quam Videri", but only 22 are in foreign tongue, and they aren't all Latin — French and Spanish phrases also are among them.

To my surprise, only nine of the 47 states emphasize liberty and freedom in their mottoes—Alabama, Delaware, Iowa, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia. Whatever the explanation, it is worth noting that eight of those nine lie in the East.

The Union is stressed by six, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Nevada, North Dakota, and Oregon. Oregon's motto, in fact, is simply the two words, "The Union". Again, whatever the explanation, it is noteworthy that none of these six is on the Atlantic seaboard.

The mottoes of five states — Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, and South Dakota — emphasize man's dependence on God.

What I would call "chamber of commerce" (advertising) mottoes—like Indiana's "Crossroads of America"—are used by that state and four others, Michigan, Montana, Minnesota, and Tennessee.

Of all the 47 mottoes, my preferences are North Carolina's "Esse Quam Videri" (To Be Rather Than To Seem), because it is descriptive of the character and temperament of Tar Heels; New Hampshire's "Live Free or Die", because it is a stirring call to man's devotion to freedom; and West Virginia's "Montana Semper Liberi" (Mountaineers Are Always Freemen), because it is true. (What is it about mountains that hardens men's determination to be free?)

There's a distinctive quality about mountain humor. If it's the real thing, you'd recognize it anywhere, under any circumstances. It is as clearly marked as if it bore a brand.

For instance: Some men here the other day were "goin' on"; that is, joking — but of course without even a trace of a smile. One was telling how poor he was, how little he had.

"I ain't got nothin'", he declared. "Not a thing in this world. All I've got is a bad name — and people gave me that."

Where, but in the mountains, could you have heard that?

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

• By BOB SLOAN

At the April term of court, one Franklin citizen, who asked for a trial by jury, was acquitted of a charge of speeding. This was, I think, a very healthy thing for the court and the law enforcement officers.

No one believes any stronger than I that "the strong arm of the law should be upheld" when right, but the time should never come when we place the prestige of the law above the cause of justice.

As a spectator in court there have been times when I felt that minor violations were decided on the basis of what the arresting officer said and that was final.

This is a very dangerous situation for several reasons. First, it could cause officers to become too sure of themselves and to not take the pains they should in finding out all the facts they possibly can before making an arrest. Second, if the court supports an officer by handing down an unjust decision based on improper information the citizenry have less respect for all the various facets of our law enforcement machinery.

Trial by jury, and with it the feeling that before those twelve men you can obtain justice, is a very basic thing in our society.

It is no reflection against the law enforcement officials if they occasionally make an arrest that doesn't stick. Rather, in my opinion, it is to their credit. It shows that they are only human in making an error. The day we should really begin to worry is when every man arrested is found guilty as charged. Then you will know that there is really something wrong.

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Misses Carrie and Grady and Masters Harry and Frank Jarrett left Saturday afternoon to visit relatives at Dillsboro, and attend the commencement exercises of Sylva High School.

Mr. S. Clark, Jr., of Highlands was in town yesterday.

From information gathered from citizens from different parts of the county, it appears that most of the peaches have been killed, but there are some left. Apples have not fared so badly, but still much damage has been done that crop also.

Mr. George H. Bidwell and his mother, accompanied by Mr. Willcutt, a friend, arrived from the North a few days ago.

25 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Leonard Pearson entertained the Girl Scouts at her home at an overnight party Friday. The girls enjoyed a picnic supper and a marshmallow toast. — Highlands item.

Miss Nancy Patton is at home, after taking a business course at Athens Business College.

Misses Ruth and Hattie Slagle, Elizabeth Setser, Carolyn, and Frances Nolen, and Dorothy Ray, Messrs. Johnny Southard, W. L. Setser, J. Robert Dalrymple, Charles and "Red" Nolen, and Lake Shope motored to Clayton and other points in Georgia on Sunday afternoon.

Miss Edwina Dalrymple, who has been teaching in the primary department of the Hayesville graded school, returned home Saturday for the summer.

10 YEARS AGO

Mrs. Winnie Rickman has returned from Oak Ridge, Tenn., where she spent a week with her daughter, Miss Helen Rickman, who is employed there.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leach, Jr., of Daytona Beach, Fla., were here last week visiting Mr. Leach's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Leach, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Rolliver J. Bath and son, Michael, of Charleston, S. C., arrived Monday for a short visit with relatives here and in Franklin. — Highlands item.



Sloan