

The Franklin Press

and

The Highlands Maconian

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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

MAY 12, 1955

Let's Set A Record?

Have you paid your 1954 Town of Franklin taxes?

If not, you have just three more days — today, Friday, and Saturday — before they are advertised. Why suffer that embarrassment and be put to that extra expense?

For the convenience of taxpayers, the town office in the Bank of Franklin building will be kept open Saturday until 5 o'clock.

Since last week, 43 Franklin taxpayers have come in and paid their last year's taxes. Ninety-four still haven't.

If each of those 97 will get busy and pay his taxes, **this week**, we can set a record, for our Centennial year — not a single taxpayer advertised as delinquent!

Are you one of those 97?

Answer Own Arguments

In a space of just two hours, the North Carolina House of Representatives last week passed a bill appropriating 640 million dollars.

And the bill was passed exactly as it had been approved by a joint sub-committee.

Thus the legislators themselves have answered their own argument about secrecy. They have argued that secrecy in committee is defensible, since debate and voting on final passage are in the open. But by their own actions, members of the House have proved that the only debate and the only votes that count on the appropriations bill are those at the committee sessions.

In the light of that, what valid argument can be made for secrecy in the appropriations committee and its sub-committees? The money being spent belongs to the people. Since it is theirs, they have a right to know, in detail, how and why and BY WHOM it is spent.

When?

Just five weeks from today Franklin's centennial celebration will open.

When are we going to start cleaning up the town in preparation for its big birthday event?

How We Think

While all good editors seek to influence what their readers think, the best editors are interested most of all in how their readers think. The good editor knows that if his readers think honestly and straight, it follows that the answers they come up with usually will be the right ones.

That has been the philosophy of Don Shoemaker during the 14 years he has been writing editorials for The Asheville Citizen.

Over that long period, it was inevitable that the way the editor of The Citizen thought should have influenced the way the people of Western North Carolina think. That influence has been beneficial.

Because Don Shoemaker is, first of all, an honest man. He is, second, a careful student; he has consistently set the example of first getting all the facts, and then trying to look at them as they are, without either prejudice or wishful thinking. He is, finally, a man whose brilliant intellect is matched by a passion for fairness and justice.

His departure, for a new and larger assignment, is a loss to this region, of which he has been so loyal a champion.

We Point With No Pride

What happened to Franklin voters last week? Had everybody gone fishing the day of the town election?

While the people in other Western North Carolina towns were proving their interest in public affairs by casting record or near-record votes, less than 40 per cent of those registered in Franklin took the trouble to go to the polls.

It is hard to explain. First, because it isn't in keeping with the Macon County tradition of being a state leader in voting in elections; second, the number of new names that went on the registration books before this election indicated keen interest; and, finally, how account for the fact that 190 fewer people voted last week than in the town election of 1953? In this election, only 307 ballots were cast, as contrasted with 497 two years ago.

And while Franklin was slipping backward, Highlands was casting one more vote than the record total of 265 in 1953.

Maybe it was because Franklin folk had complete confidence in every candidate in the race; and nobody can deny that every man running would have made a good alderman. Apathy, though, is the more likely explanation.

Whatever the reason, letting the other fellow do your voting isn't the way to get good government, town, county, state, or national.

Had The Votes

They had the votes to do it.

That's the only possible explanation of the action of the majority of the General Assembly in refusing to change the absentee vote law. Really, it was the only argument advanced in defense of the action. It was the only one advanced because it was the only one there was to advance.

For another two years, the Democratic party in North Carolina will continue to say:

"The absentee vote law isn't good enough for Democratic primaries, but it's good a-plenty for general elections."

If that makes sense, then the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of North Carolina don't!

Furthermore, to anybody who can see beyond the end of his nose, it isn't even good partisan politics!

Others' Opinions

CHECK

(Dallas News)

Our position is that with women demanding equal rights it would serve 'em right if they got 'em.

A DESERVED RECOGNITION

(Silva Herald)

The Herald extends congratulations to Dr. D. D. Hooper upon having been recognized and presented a certificate of record and an emblem for 50 years of practice by the North Carolina Medical Society. The presentation was made at a meeting of the Society at Pinehurst on Wednesday. This high honor comes to one who deserves it. When Dr. Hooper began practicing medicine over 50 years ago it was quite different from today. To reach his patients he had to ride a horse or go by buggy when the roads and trails were passable, usually at night because most emergencies have a habit of coming at that time. Today the doctor sees the majority of his patients in his office or on a hospital bed, some few are visited in the home but good highways and the automobile make it simple and easy to reach them.

Those old time doctors served their fellowmen well and often under great hardship, and in many cases without pay.

WHAT LITTLE GIRLS ARE MADE OF

(London Answers)

"Sugar and spice and all things nice—that's what little girls are made of." Or so we were told in the nursery rhyme.

Perhaps you never felt inclined to believe it, anyway, but now the legend about the sweetness of the female should be demolished for all time by the findings of a professor and his assistants at Albany Medical college in New York. After an exhaustive survey of the chemical constituents of girls, the report says they are made of:

Enough chlorine to disinfect five swimming pools; 1,400 cubic feet of oxygen; 30 teaspoons of salt; 10 gallons of water; 5 pounds of lime; 31 pounds of carbon; enough glycerine to explode a heavy naval shell; enough glutin to make 5 pounds of glue; enough magnesium for a photographer to take 10 flash photos; enough fat for 10 bars of soap; enough iron to make a sixpenny nail, and enough sulphur to rid a dog of fleas.

No spice, you will notice. But the sugar? Here the analysis makes some concession to the famous nursery rhyme. The average girl's body contains sugar to the quantity of — four ounces!

GOOD TOURIST SEASON AHEAD

(Waynesville Mountaineer)

From all quarters there comes indications of one of the best tourist seasons this area has ever known.

Yet on the other hand, we are surprised to find that so many people are taking it for granted that the particular area does not have any competition when it comes to the tourist business.

We do not know of a more competitive business than the effort that is being made to get that tourist dollar.

Just look at any travel magazine, the travel section of the large metropolitan newspapers, and you'll understand how many different places are after the tourists.

We must realize that this business is highly competitive and make our plans accordingly. It means for one thing, that we cannot let up on our consistent advertising program; must continue to improve services and facilities and put our "hearts" into the program.

A good start has been made this season here in Haywood and a continuation will bring about a bountiful harvest.

IT'S POWERFUL

THE ODOR OF WILD ONIONS

(Horace Horse In Stanly News and Press)

The odor of onions in East Albemarle, and it was the wild variety. I discovered that city employees had been working on the Albemarle cemetery, and the wild onion crop had been leveled to the ground.

The odor lingered for two or three days, revealing the potency of this plant which is not good for a single thing except to "mess up" the air, beef, chicken, turkey, and other foods.

The cultivated onion is no weakling, but apparently does not have the strength of its wild first cousin.

Up in the mountains, they have the ramp which is said to be especially strong, and every spring they have a ramp-eating convention. I believe Thad Eure, secretary of state, is president of the Ramp Eaters, and the convention is quite an affair which draws a large attendance. Margaret Truman was invited to attend this year, but turned it down more or less promptly. I have an idea she looked up the word in the dictionary, and that was enough.

I have never been invited to the Ramp Convention, and will make no special effort to attend if I am. I would not eat the ramps, yet being around folks who had, would be enough of a deterrent. There would certainly be one in the crowd who could not talk a conversation without putting his face right up in yours and keeping it there even if you kept backing away.

Back in the days when there was a mad rush to fill up the freezer lockers with a few steaks and copious quantities of

stew beef, I rushed out in the county to a fellow who had beef cattle to sell. Never for a moment did I give consideration to the wild onion angle of the deal. The meat was as pretty as could have been found anywhere in the world, including Armour or Swift packing houses.

But when we cooked the first steaks, the house smelled like East Albemarle after the cemetery had been given its usual spring trim.

After trying to eat a few packages of the meat, I gave up, and offered it for sale at a discount. A man who had a contract to feed a couple of hundred Boy Scouts bought it, ground it up, and served it to the boys in hamburger style with a thick slice of onion in each roll. It was good eating under such circumstances and the boys gained in weight if not in flavor during the week.

Of course, beef buyers know it takes several weeks to eliminate the wild onion tang, but I was inexperienced. All I wanted to do was to fill up the locker, so I could brag about having it full.

Up in Haywood County, I learn from the Waynesville Mountaineer, a man who produced 28,000 bushels of apples last year, switched late in March to onions after the freeze had burned up all the apple blossoms. He ordered five hundred bushels of onion sets, and started to work.

My testimony in this matter will be that onions are powerfully poor substitutes for apples, even the scrubby "seconds" or "thirds" that are usually found in Albemarle food stores.

STRICTLY

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

An atomic war must be avoided at all costs — that seems to be the feeling of many Americans.

And today the Eisenhower administration appears to reflect that view. Instead of "unleashing Chiang" and seeking to free the enslaved peoples, the administration now seems determined to find some formula short of a hot war that will enable us to live in the same world with the Communist dictators.

But, ask Senator Knowland and others, is any real and lasting peace possible between the democracies, on the one hand, and Communist totalitarianism, on the other? Can they coexist in the same world, or ultimately must one destroy the other?

Senator Knowland holds that there can be no real peace and that ultimately one must destroy the other. Thus he opposes any and every concession to the Communists, and many persons who hold his conviction feel we should destroy the Communist dictatorships before they become strong enough to destroy us.

Whether they are right or wrong, their viewpoint is well presented in a personal letter I had the other day from a friend in a neighboring state—presented even better, it seems to me, that it has been presented by any U. S. senator.

"I hope and pray," my correspondent writes, "that Ike, Eden, Dulles, and Senator George are right and Knowland is wrong. I hope Senator Knowland never has an opportunity to say 'I told you so'."

"I know that Syngman Rhee and Chiang and Knowland are considered obstinate and bull-headed, but sometimes I have an uneasy feeling that my son and daughter might sometime wish that opposition to the advances of Communist encroachment on free territory might have been more obstinate.

"I find a parallel in Hitler and the Sudetenland. If it was wrong for Hitler to murder and enslave, the atomic bomb does not make it more right for Chou to enslave and brainwash.

"Danger of death shouldn't change the principles of free men. Peace without Freedom is meaningless, and how long can the world remain half-slave and half-free? Or was Lincoln a fool?

"If people behind the Iron and Bamboo Curtains are ever to regain their freedoms, they must resist and fight back, and yet we are trying to impose passive resistance upon both Rhee and Chiang in hope that the leopard changes his spots, and in the meantime we lose self-respect and human beings die. Where are the heroes in this struggle? Is evil to triumph through default?

"It is not a matter of war and peace but of slavery and freedom, as I see it, and death to a free man must be always preferable to slavery, even if that death be from an atomic bomb.

"Is Communism some how nicker than Fascism? I don't know, but from what I have read and heard, I doubt it. Should we have coexisted with Hitler? Was Neville Chamberlain right?"

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

The old saw that there are two sides to every question has been brought home to me very strongly within the past week. The incident was in connection with my work at The Franklin Press.

Last week we were informed by the post office people that it would be necessary for us to sort the papers we mail more completely and to fill out a form giving the number of papers and total weight for each zone. This naturally involved more work for us and we were, to put it mildly, displeased. Many remarks were made by members of The Press organization concerning the post office and its service. Most of them were unfair and typical of the kind of remarks people



Sloan

make when have to change their way of doing things. We felt that someone else's job was being pushed off on us.

Remembering the old saw mentioned above, after thinking about the matter I believe that the post office is meeting the newspapers more than half way.

To begin with newspapers are charged a very very low rate. It costs The Franklin Press about \$7.00 to mail approximately 2,500 four ounce copies of the paper to all parts of the United States. The reason behind this low rate is that Congress felt that it would encourage the spreading of the news to all people. This, I think, is good. However, newspapers take advantage by exchanging papers to the extent that the mails are cluttered up with papers that in many cases are never even opened. These papers are handled by the post office and take as much time to handle as live mail.

Another old saw that newspaper people should remember is that "You get what you pay for". The newspapers expect good service, but they very bitterly opposed a recent proposed rate increase. Looking at the question as fairly as I can, I think that the newspapers should expect to help the post office in every way possible, or be willing to pay a higher rate.

Newspapers, particularly since they spend so much time demanding efficiency in government, would do well to look at both sides of the question. If (See Back Page, 1st Section)

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Kope Elias was perambulating the streets of Bryson City last week.

Miss Helen, daughter of Mrs. Miss Helen Allison, daughter of Mrs. Lelia Allison, arrived home Saturday from school at Waynesville.

Miss Mary Dawson, of Bryson City, arrived last week to spend a couple of weeks visiting her sister, Mrs. W. J. Zachary.

25 YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Root spent the week-end in Walhalla, S. C., with friends. — Highlands item.

Charles Robert Patton entertained the members of the senior class at dinner at his home Saturday evening, May 3.

Mrs. Frank Bidwell, of Springfield, Mass., arrived Monday to visit Mrs. George Bidwell at "Road's End" camp.

Miss Ida Moore left for Knoxville, Tenn., last Saturday, where she will spend a month visiting her aunt, Mrs. W. A. Collins.

10 YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Moore and family have returned from Wilmington, where they have been making their home.

Capt. and Mrs. Jesse N. Tessler left on Monday for Savery, Wyo., for a visit with Mrs. Tessler's sister, Mrs. W. T. Hays, and Mr. Hays. Capt. Tessler recently returned from overseas, where he spent several months.

Dr. and Mrs. Henry W. Gante, of Anderson, Ind., are spending some time at their camp on the Franklin Road.—Highlands item.