

The Franklin Press and The Highlands Maconian

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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One Year	\$3.00	One Year	\$2.50
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Three Months	1.00	Three Months	1.00

June 30, 1955

No Surprise

Surprised?

Not us! It comes as no surprise at all to us that the Franklin Future Farmers of America Chapter has won recognition, that this wide awake group of young men—future agricultural giants, we would proudly point out—has been singled out as the best among the state's 460 chapters.

And we don't even claim to have supernatural powers. It doesn't take a little bird, or a crystal ball, to show us how good this group of young men is.

It just takes some remembering.

Remembering that the Franklin chapter has enrolled 1,395 young men in vocational agriculture since it was established in 1930.

Remembering that an F. F. A. member owned the grand champion beef animal for three years in the W. N. C. Fat Stock Show and Sale.

Remembering that 30 of its members have earned the Carolina Farmer degree.

Remembering that last year the chapter had a net income of \$22,539.14—an average labor income of about \$254 per member.

Remembering that the chapter is in the center of community activities, from seeding church lawns to building picnic tables for community areas.

Remembering the long string of awards hanging in the chapter's meeting room at the vocational building—awards won on all levels of competition, for a variety of things.

Remembering, too, that the Franklin Future Farmers of America owe much of their success to the very capable leadership of their teacher, Wayne Proffitt, backed by progressive and far-sighted farmers and businessmen, who modestly hover in the background most of the time, but are quick to spring forward and offer any assistance, be it advice or work.

No, we're not surprised that our boys are the best. Just proud—so proud we're poppin' our vest buttons!

A Couple Of Bouquets

I

He hasn't any boys of his own, but for some twenty years he's been working with other people's boys. And it's all done "for free" — because he loves boys and his community. So here's a big bouquet for James L. (Jimmy) Hauser.

II

It's always there, that daily newspaper of yours. And it's not on the roof or in the bushes or out in the yard; it's always at your door. In recent months, it's true, it's often been late, because of road conditions. But think back! Can you remember a single time when it didn't come? The man who puts it there is paid to do it, of course, but what a pleasant world this would be if everybody did his job as well as Boise Hall!

Fills Need

A remarkably large proportion of the people of Macon County possess a rare combination of gifts — imagination, taste, ingenuity, and the ability to work with their hands. That is to say, the various crafts are a "natural" for many of us here. Nor are we merely apt pupils; the crafts that already are here are, many of them, transplants from across the Atlantic, and thus much older than the county.

What has been lacking is a market for the work

of our imaginations and our fingers. The Mountaineer Craft Shop, just opened here, seeks to supply that market. The need for something of the kind is so obvious, the wonder is somebody hadn't thought of it long ago.

In India, the cardinal sin is to eat pork. In China, it's disrespect for ancestors. In America, it's failure to conform — to the dress, the tastes, the standards, and the ideas of the crowd.

Progress: Keeping the water supply pure so you can attract water-using industries, so they can pollute the water, so you can't get any more industries.

Both town authorities and individual property owners made a good start, during the Centennial celebration, toward getting Franklin really clean. But only a start! Now let's go ahead and finish the job.

many facts about Franklin which would probably have never seen the light of day except for the centennial.

Editor Weimar Jones and his staff are to be congratulated on their edition, and the completeness and attractive manner in which it was presented.

QUOTES FROM EDITION

(Bert Vincent in Knoxville News-Sentinel, June 16)

Franklin, N. C., is 100 years old, and so the folks over there are pitching a big celebration from today through Saturday. Weimar Jones, editor of the Franklin Press, has mailed me the Franklin Centennial Edition, telling all about the big doings. In this paper, too, are a lot of interesting old pictures of the mountain life in the days long ago. And lots of interesting reading, too.

Naturally, I look through this big paper for something to put here for you to read. Must be short, yet interesting. (Mr. Vincent then quotes Arthur Hicks' story about the mirror, Mrs. Lexie Sanders' story about the boys pulling the plow, and Captain O. Sanders' stories about panthers and bears.)

PRAISES EDITION

(Sylva Herald)

We hasten to extend our heartiest congratulations to our good friends, Weimar Jones and Bob Sloan, publishers of The Franklin Press, and their staff, who published a most commendable forty-eight page "Franklin Centennial Edition" of the Press on June 16. No doubt the largest paper ever published in Franklin, it is an edition of which the publishers can well be proud. From the front page to the back page it contains a wealth of factual matter, relating to the past and preserving much history that otherwise might have been lost forever. Well illustrated thruout with pictures, many of them made in the pioneer days, gives the edition a real flavor of the olden days.

Having gotten out the Jackson County Centennial Edition in 1951, we know whereof we speak when we say that our Franklin friends have just gone through a "blood sweating" period. To publish an edition of this nature and size is a super undertaking for a normal weekly paper staff, both as to human faculty and mechanical facilities. It would be impossible for the town of Franklin and the county of Macon to measure in dollars and cents the true value to the community of the big Centennial Edition gotten out by The Press.

FRANKLIN'S SHINDIG

(Morganton News-Herald, June 13)

We would like to be up in Franklin this week, for this lovely little town, the County seat of Macon, will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

The Franklin Press tells about it in a special centennial edition which is crammed full of pictures and interesting stories about the community's past.

Here's the lead story about the celebration:

"They's goin' to be big doin's in Franklin. A plumb shindig, that'll last three whole days.

"Franklin's a hundred years old, and it'll be a birthday party for the ole countyseat of Macon.

"The folk'll start celebratin' 'long about sunup on Thursday and it'll be long after sundown on Saturday before they quit.

"The party's not just for home folks. Company's invited, too—the lathstring's already out. And when visitors get here, Franklin folks'll be shoutin' at em—just like their great-granddaddies did, when somebody rode up to the hitchin' post a hundred years ago: 'Light, stranger, and come in!'"

All in all, we would like very much to be at Franklin to stay from the address of Governor Hodges, through the Parade of Progress and the contests including the beards, sideburns, goatees and moustaches competing for the title of the ugliest "brushy brother".

Poetry

Editor
EDITH DEADERICK ERSKINE
Weaverville, North Carolina

ONE WHO KNOWS

The treasures on the ocean's floor
Lie hid, beyond my reach,
But I like to hear the ocean's roar
As I sit upon the beach.
What lies beneath the tide that flows
I rest assured there's One who knows.

I cannot touch a single star
Upon a crystal night,
Nor understand just why they are,
But I love their brilliant light.
Yet, while I watch from where I stand
He holds them gently in His hand.

How very much I'd like to know
Where leads tomorrow's trail;
Perhaps where desert blast may blow,
Perhaps through verdant vale.
Just where tomorrow's pathway goes
I rest assured there's One who knows.

Of what may lie beyond the veil
Of our last slumber, tightly drawn,
None come back to tell the tale
When once beyond it they have gone.
This guarded secret's His to keep
Until He wakes me from my sleep.

GILMER A. JONES

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The poem above won first place award in the poetry division of the June Festival of Creative Arts, being held in Asheville.)

Letters

'DID ITSELF UP GRAND'

Editor, The Press:

Macon County did itself up grand, in the three days. Each day was filled with history, repeating the past, which was good for all of us. Long may this be remembered!

LILLIAN SLAGLE ASHE

Andrews, N. C.

PROUD OF FRANKLIN

Editor, The Press:

I do hope this letter is not too late. I want some copies of the Centennial edition sent to some of my "folks". I am inclosing a list of names.

I am very proud of my home town, and all the activities there interest me — even if it has been many years since I've lived in North Carolina.

I'm quite proud of the paper you put out, also of the standards you uphold. If Macon County's not "O. K.", it won't be your fault!

Keep on digging till the town does that cleaning you advise. I am not a tourist, and never have been, but in this land of tourists I do know what they like — and that is a clean, and even a pretty, town. They like shady places, with grass and flowers and benches or chairs to sit on. Why, oh why, be a tourist, if you can't do a little loafing with comfort!

Very truly,

MRS. KATHLEEN GRIBBLE SHELLEY

Lake Helen, Florida.

LIKES EDITION

Editor, The Press:

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the staff of the Press for your "Centennial Edition", which I received this week. It is good to get news from the old home town any time, but this was an unexpected treat.

Last year Omaha celebrated its centennial and at that time I thought how nice it would be to see a collection of pictures and stories from the past of my home town, not realizing that its 100th birthday was so close.

Many of the names mentioned in various articles were familiar to me, as my Grandmother Sweatman worked in the old Jarrett Hotel before her marriage, and she has told me many stories of the travelers stopping at the hotel. She also traveled across the mountain in a surrey to work at the Jarrett Hotel in Dillsboro and told what a tiresome trip it was at that time. Much credit should be given to the road builders for their great progress since that time.

Another fact that interested me greatly was the percentage of college graduates from Macon County. I never realized that we had such a high record. However, after spending a couple of years in Greensboro, I know why the girls feel so much at home there, as they are never lacking for home town companions.

I am looking forward to going through the new high school on my next visit home, as I'm sure it is quite an improvement over my old alma mater.

Best wishes to your staff and all the home folks.

Sincerely yours,

MRS. JESSIE BARNARD WEBB
(Daughter of Bill Barnard)

Omaha, Nebraska.

Others' Opinions

COMMENDABLE EDITION

(Waynesville Mountaineer)

The Franklin Press, with their 48-page centennial edition, made one almost wish they had lived back in "the good old days".

The edition was complete, well illustrated, and filled with factual articles about the early days of the county seat of Macon.

The edition will be of unusual historical value in the years to come, because between the two covers of that issue were

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

The Centennial proved that we can put on a good show here. It would be good for the community if we did something of the sort about once each year.

With that in mind, I would like to make the following suggestions:

1. That some sort of celebration be staged each year.
2. That it be a joint town-county affair.
3. That the theme of the celebration not be the same for more than two years in a row. Something new and different is more fun for the spectators and those who are putting on the show.
4. That the celebration not be done as a money-making event. If the event can break even—good. As for the return, let it come from the favorable publicity we would receive. I think one of the best things about the recent celebration was that the merchants haven't been asked to dig down and foot the bill, as is the case in so many things here.

Well that is just an idea, if developed I believe it could be worth thousands of dollars to our county in growth and development. This is particularly true if we could come up with some novel ideas for our themes, and I believe we could.

All my life I have heard that the South wanted to work out the segregation problem, that they just wanted to be given time. Now we will find out whether that is just talk to buy time in order that the status quo will be retained or whether these people are sincere, also whether the South considers itself a nation unto itself or respects the law of the United States.

Certainly we should go slow, but you can't go anywhere unless you make a start. Is the South going to do anything besides appoint committees?

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Miss Clara Caldwell, of Texas, and her brother arrived here last week to spend sometime visiting Mr. and Mrs. George A. Jacobs and other relatives.

Mrs. W. A. Curtis left Thursday for a visit to Sylva and Bryson City, N. C., to be gone 10 days or more.

Prof. Wade H. Crawford and bride, of Mansfield, La., arrived yesterday evening to remain a few weeks with relatives.

25 YEARS AGO

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Henley and family, of Birmingham, Ala., have arrived to spend the season here at their summer home.—Highlands item.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert J. Reno and son, A. J., Jr., of Canton, visited Mr. Reno's sister, Mrs. R. D. West, of Iotla, last week.

Mrs. Henry Slagle will leave for New York today and will sail from there to France to visit the grave of her son, Mack, who lost his life in the World War.

10 YEARS AGO

Miss Belva J. Waldroop, who is working on a defense project in Brunswick, Ga., spent the first of the week visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grady Waldroop, at their home on Upper Cartoogechaye.

Mr. and Mrs. Sloan Rickman and three children, of Newport News, Va., arrived Sunday for a week's visit with Mrs. Rickman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. McCoy, at their home at Gneiss.

Miss Edna Phillips, of Brevard, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Phillips. Miss Phillips is secretary to Dr. Coltrane, president of Brevard College.—Highlands item.

PERRY'S HAD ENTRY

The name of Miss Sue Blaine was unavoidably omitted from the list of young women competing in the "Miss Centennial" contest last week. She was sponsored by Perry's Drug Store.