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SUBSCRIPTION RATES	
OUTSIDE MACON COUNTY	INSIDE MACON COUNTY
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Six Months 1.75	Six Months 1.75
Three Months 1.00	Three Months 1.00

DECEMBER 8, 1955

Prosperous Macon

A number of inferences may be drawn from the figures on retail trade here, published in last week's Press.

The people of this county spent nearly 10 million dollars in local retail establishments in 1954, according to figures from the State Department of Conservation and Development.

The first and most reasonable conclusion is that, if the people of this county have enough money to spend an average of \$616 for every man, woman, and child in the county, Macon County is relatively prosperous.

The total here was only slightly lower than in Jackson County, which is larger than Macon and which has considerably more industry, and only a little lower than in highly industrialized Transylvania. That suggests that industry, no matter how desirable, is not necessarily the one and only fount of all economic blessings.

Finally, it seems pretty obvious that Macon County people couldn't spend 10 million dollars with local business establishments and have much left to spend elsewhere. There must be relatively little mail order and out-of-county shopping. If that is true, there's a reason.

Generally speaking, people buy what they want where they know it is to be found. In other words, local business men got a lot of business because they operate good stores, stock a variety of merchandise, and advertise that merchandise, so the public knows it is available at home.

Only Way

The Utah delegation to last week's White House Conference on Education was so opposed to federal aid to education it refused the federal government's allowance for the delegation's travel and other expense connected with the conference. The expense came out of state funds.

Whether federal aid does or does not make sense, the Utah group has the right answer to federal control — and the answer applies in all areas, not just education.

If the states and the counties want to save any of the state and local independence that is left, they've got to take some responsibility; that is always the price of freedom.

Southerners who shout, in one breath, for state's rights, and in the next yell for federal aid — for schools, for storm damage, or for anything else — either are hypocrites or fools.

For a county or a state or a nation is just like a man in this respect. And the only way a man can be free is to stand on his own feet.

We Don't Raise 'em Here

Franklin food stores sold approximately 300 dressed turkeys at Thanksgiving.

At an average of 10 pounds per bird, that's 3,000 pounds of turkey; and at, say, 50 cents per pound, that's \$1,500.

And an even livelier demand for turkeys is anticipated during the Christmas season.

Probably \$4,500 to \$5,000 worth of turkeys will have been sold in this county by the end of the year.

And where was this meat raised? Not here! All of it was shipped in.

We are inclined to complain, here in Macon County, about lack of economic opportunity. Well, this looks like an economic opportunity for at least one man that's being overlooked. We suspect it is but one of hundreds.

Letters

Seeks Data On New Echota

Editor, The Press:

The New Echota-Cherokee Foundation is engaged in a momentous and long-needed project which has as its goal the restoration of the former Cherokee capital of New Echota (near present-day Calhoun, Georgia) as an historic shrine.

Recently, we learned that a wood engraving of the New Echota council house was made probably in 1830. Our informant told us about a picture he had seen which was printed from this engraving, although he was not able to find the picture for us at the time.

Does anyone else know about such a picture? It is extremely important to our restoration project to obtain a full description of this council house about which comparatively little information seems to be available.

Anyone knowing the location of the council house picture or other information about it or New Echota itself is asked to communicate with us.

HENRY T. MALONE, Adviser,
New Echota-Cherokee Foundation, Inc.

33 Gilmer Street, S. E.,
Atlanta 3, Ga.

Others' Opinions

Statement Of The Year

(Sydney Harris in Charlotte Observer)

In our society, if you know the answers to a half-dozen questions, you may win \$64,000 but if you know the answers to many questions, you're lucky if you get a job teaching for one-tenth that sum. How can respect for learning flourish when we reward the knowledge that is accidental, and snub the knowledge that is systematic and serious?

Religious Hoe-Down

(Shelby Cleveland Times)

It appears these days that some quartet, hill-billy, and folksy-type entertainers think they must make a real hoe-down out of religious songs in order to get them across.

They swing and sway, squeal out in falsetto, and cram every ounce of jive possible into their singing of sacred songs. The spiritual connotation is lost in the rhythm.

To our knowledge no minister or church has shown any concern about the manner in which sacred songs are being profaned. But we feel that it is high time that they should be concerned.

It Could Be You

(Seville, Ohio, Chronicle)

Are you a newcomer to the community? A lot of people are. Do you find that people here aren't quite as friendly as you had hoped they might be, that you still feel a stranger after months in the community?

If you do, don't blame it entirely on the town. Part of it may be you. How many times have you attended church or Sunday school since moving here? Will you attend PTA meeting(s) . . . if you have children in school? Do you still drive back "home"—meaning the community in which you used to live—at every leisure moment when your next door neighbor may be waiting to get acquainted with you? Where do you shop? Local storekeepers do an amazing job of information exchange for regular customers!

We ask newcomers the above questions to remind them that making friends is not a one way job in a small community. We of necessity live close to one another's private lives here. We have no professional greeters, and we tend not to annoy people who don't appear to want to talk to us.

Majority Rule And The Baptists

(Chapel Hill News Leader)

Is the principle of democracy and its close associate, majority rule, good in other than political cases?

What is called the Rocky Mount Baptist Church case is bringing this question to the fore in an acute form.

Baptist churches are each autonomous and independent. Their affairs are handled on a democratic basis. In North Carolina the Baptists supported Thomas Jefferson as President of the United States and sent him messages of approval when other denominations either looked at him askance or openly opposed his precepts.

In all ages democratic procedure has rested on a majority vote. What other principle, except minority rule, is there to abide by?

But in the Rocky Mount case the North Carolina Supreme Court decided in favor of a minority element. It ruled this was the "true" congregation and gave to it the church property valued at \$250,000.

The majority has remained dissatisfied with this decision.

And well it might.

There is nothing sacred about a majority. History shows that majorities have often been wrong. But the record of minorities, particularly small and tight ones, has been even worse.

The majority principle is simply a rule designed to get action and avoid stalemates. It is a human device and not a divine one.

Nevertheless, it enables the democratic idea to be preserved and carried out in individual cases, however imperfectly.

Rail oddities



A FAMILY OF OSPREYS BUILT THEIR NEST ON A RAILROAD TELEGRAPH POLE IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE TWIGS, INTERLACED WITH THE WIRES, DISRUPTED THE TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

LINEMEN DESTROYED THE NEST BUT THE DETERMINED BIRDS BUILT ANOTHER ONE IN THE SAME PLACE AND THIS WENT ON TIME AFTER TIME.

IN THE END THE OSPREYS WON THE ARGUMENT. THE RAILROAD BUILT A NEW CROSS-ARM ATOP THE POLE AND ABOVE THE WIRES; GENTLY TRANSFERRED THE NEST TO THE NEW PERCH AND THE BIRDS IMMEDIATELY RESUMED RESIDENCE. EVERYTHING HUNKY-DORY ALL AROUND.

News Making As It Looks To A Maconite

By BOB SLOAN

One of the finest safety devices recently adopted by the North Carolina state highway department is the construction of traffic islands in front of large retail shopping areas. An example of this type of work may be found in front of the shopping center in East Franklin. Not only does it vastly improve the looks of the area, but it forces the traffic to enter the highway at a given point rather than heister skelter anywhere over an area of some four to five hundred yards. Safety conscious motorists, as well as those property owners who have had their property improved in this fashion, owe the highway department a vote of thanks.

Last week this newspaper raised the question in an editorial and left it unanswered,— "Is racial discrimination worse than any other kind? if so, why? and how?"

The answer is yes. The reason is that racial discrimination often is deliberate action or thought for or against some one for no provoked reason on the part of that person.

There are many forms of discrimination.

If at the same time the Good Samaritan saw the Jew lying in the ditch, he had seen another person a little farther along lying there bleeding to death and in a worse condition than the first Jew, and come to his aid, this would have been discrimination, but not racial discrimination. Had he failed to go to the aid of either just because they were Jews that would have been racial discrimination. Certainly any Christian person will admit that had the Samaritan not crossed the road simply because he was a Jew, that would have been wrong, and more so than if he had chosen between two persons needing aid.

Other examples could be cited, but it seems to me that in most cases of racial or social discrimination as compared with some other types there is the same difference that there is between first degree murder and manslaughter. And first degree murder is worse because it is deliberate and done with malice aforethought, while manslaughter may be an accident.

Do You Remember?

(Looking backward through the files of The Press)

50 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK
The Methodist, Baptist, and Presbyterian Churches held a Union Thanksgiving service at the Baptist Church last Thursday and a collection was taken to be equally distributed among the orphanages of the three denominations. A good congregation was present.

Mr. W. L. Higdon and his brother, Sam, are going to establish a furniture shop and planing mill in Franklin.

10,000 people saw the football game between the University of North Carolina and the University of Virginia at Norfolk, Va., on Thanksgiving Day. North Carolina won by a score of 17-0.

25 YEARS AGO
The Citizens Bank and the Bank of Franklin consolidated last Friday and will be operated under the name of The Bank of Franklin.

Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Raby, former citizens of Macon County, but now of Athens, Tenn., are visiting relatives and friends in and around Franklin.

Mr. Charlie Watson, of Dayton, Ohio, was visiting Mr. D. M. Rogers last week.

10 YEARS AGO
The regular monthly singing convention of Macon County Baptists will be held at the Highlands Baptist Church on the afternoon of December 23, beginning at 1 o'clock.—Highlands item.

Miss Katherine Long, who is teaching in Kannapolis, spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Long.

Miss Kathryn Neal, who is employed in Asheville, was in Franklin Saturday, en route to her home at Aquone on a week-end visit with relatives and friends.

WELL, TRY THIS! So You're Good At Geography?

Here's a geography test that ought to be easy, but that many adults will find hard. (It's surprising how much we forget.)

Can you name the 48 states, with their capitals?

To make it easier, the first letters of the states and their capitals are given below—states at left, capitals at center.

See how quickly you can fill them out; it shouldn't take more than ten minutes.

- | | |
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| A | M |
| A | L |
| C | S |
| C | D |
| C | H |
| D | D |
| F | T |
| G | A |
| I | B |
| I | S |
| I | I |
| I | D |
| K | T |
| K | F |
| L | B |
| M | A |
| M | A |
| M | B |
| M | L |
| M | S |
| M | J |
| M | J |
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Anonymous.

PERSONAL

By WEIMAR JONES

Last week's annual banquet of Macon's F. F. A. and 4-H youth would have done credit to any community, anywhere.

The program was well planned and well executed. The decorations — even including hand cut-out cow place cards that stood up — were attractive and appropriate. And the business men, being honored for their support of the fat stock sale prices, and their wives represented almost every economic and social group; yet their faces mirrored the general feeling of pride in the youngsters and in this community, and a spirit of friendliness. That meeting re-emphasized what has often impressed me here—this is a remarkably democratic community.

As I watched and listened, I was repeatedly reminded of how impossible such a gathering would have been here even 15 or 20 years ago. There was no

satisfactory place for such a dinner meeting, for one thing. Community or personal jealousies and feuds would have kept a lot of the folks away, for another. And, finally, the spirit of "we can do it" that now pervades Macon County — especially among the young people — just hadn't been born.

Once again, it gave me a thrill to be a part of such a good place to live as this has become — and is becoming.

That line of thought inevitably provoked the question:

What caused the transformation? A lot of things, of course — and a lot of people. Basically, though, it came about because there has been some thinking going on here, and some vision-seeing, and a lot of plain hard work.

And the future? All we need is more of the same.