The Branklin Press

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The Highlands Macanian

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About Time?

JUNE 6, 1957

This community needs an adequate auditorium.

That need was emphasized anew at last week's Franklin High School graduation. It's an improvement, of course, to be able to hold the exercises on the school campus, instead of having to go to a downtown theater. But that doesn't change the fact that the gymnasium is no auditorium. The very word "auditorium" means a place where you can hear; the gymnasium does not fit that defi-

It was a little pathetic to think how much work the young people on the program had put into their speeches, hours and days of preparation and other hours and days of practicing-and then have them unheard.

In all this community, there is not one suitable place, that is large enough, for a concert, a public address, a dramatic performance, or even a high school graduation!

The need has been with us for many years. Isn't it about time we did something about it?

You Can Go To ...!

Urging passage of the new tax bill to ease the burden of corporations, Governor Hodges the other day told the General Assembly approval of the bill would give the state a good chance to land an industry "as large as any in North Carolina".

He quoted an executive of the company as saying there was no positive assurance the plant would come, even if the Legislature enacted the tax bill, but that "we won't come if you don't".

That, to us, sounds perilously close to intimidation, to blackmail, even. We don't like it.

And we'd have felt better about it if Governor

Hodges, instead of holding this bait (or threat) before the legislators, had told the industry: "We'll enact our own tax laws. We want no dictation from you. You'll have to take us or leave us as we are. If you don't like us as we are, you can go to . . . another state."

Behind The Times

Most of us are ashamed of last week's reported "drag" race here.

Ashamed, first of all, at this open violation of the law.

Ashamed, second, that we have even a few people that childish and stupid; for "drag" racing is silly, a mark of immaturity.

Ashamed, finally, of being so far behind the times. For "drag" racing is not new; it is on the way out. If we have so little originality that we can't do any better than pick up every fad that comes along, at least we should be up to date, not trailing the procession.

Wake up, kids; this is mid-1957!

Praise For Mr. Bueck

(Cherokee Scout)

The high school graduation exercises at Murphy's new gym Thursday night will be old stuff to at least one man there. It will be his 25th such ceremony—and also his last.

H. Bueck, for the past 25 years has been superintendent of Murphy city schools announced his resignation a few weeks ago. He has accepted a position in Franklin.

The fact that it will mark the end of his service here no doubt will be foremost in the mind of Mr. Bueck as well as many of the other people during the graduation ceremonies. For he will be missed in Murphy.

The school will feel the loss of Mr. Bueck because he is a fine educator and the teachers because he is an outstanding leader. He will be missed by the community because of his civic work and by the people because he has been a good

But these things, by comparison, are trivial. The greatest loss will be to the children who will not have had the opportunity to learn under this outstanding man. There is no way to measure that loss.

No Place For Brush-offs

(Windsor, Colo., Beacon)

Our official spokesmen need to acquire a new attitude and learn some new words to go with it. To every "peace" over-ture from Russia, their answer is: "It's only propaganda."

What if it IS propaganda? Then why not answer it with propaganda of our own?

The trouble is, American diplomacy is still battling the shadows of McCarthyism. Our diplomats feel obliged, above all, to convince congress that they are not being taken in by Soviet propaganda. And our elected officials, most of them, feel that they have to keep reminding the people back home that they are not soft touches for Moscow. Consequently, their answers to Russia overtures are not directed to Russia at all, but to congress or the electorate.

This situation obviously cannot make for good diplomacy. Answers to peace and disarmament gestures should not be phrased primarily to please congress, nor even to please unthinking voters. This nation simply cannot afford to give any peace overture the brush-off, whether we regard it as sincere or as the merest propaganda.

We should meet these approaches in such a way as to convince allies and neutrals—and the communist nations as well -that we are always ready to talk peace.

WARNS OF BOMB DANGER

Nuclear Explosions Endanger Generations Unborn

Dr. Schweitzer Declares

science issued by Dr. Albert Schweitzer, under the auspices of the Nobel Prize Committee in Oslo, Norway. Dr. Schweitzer, scientist, theologian, philosopher and musician, who has devoted much of his life to helping the copie of French Equatorial Africa, is generally considered one of the greatest men living.)

Since March 1, 1954 hydrogen bombs have been tested by the United States at the Pacific Island of Bikini in the Marshall group and by Soviet Russia in Siberia. We know that testing of atomic weapons is something quite different from testing non-atomic ones. Earlier, when a new type of giant gun had been tested, the matter ended with the detonation. After the explosion of a hydrogen bomb that is not the case. Something remains in the air, namely, an incalculable number of radioactive particles emitting radioactive rays. . .

Since radioactive rays of sufficient amount and strength Cobat 60 must also be mentionhave harmful effects on the human body, it must be considered whether the radiation resulting from the hydrogen explosions that have already taken place represents a danger which would increase with new explo-

that radiation resulting from be stressed above all the others the explosions which have al- is the one which arises from and the white blood corpuscles cept the agreement. . . ready taken place represents a our drinking radioactive water are formed, are very sensitive. The end of further experidanger to the human race—a and our eating radioactive food to radioactive rays . . . If the ments with atom bombs would atomic bombs will increase this air. . . .

ium or radium. . .

May Last For Years the air by the explosions which they are stored. . have taken place till now has disappeared no one can say

Of what nature are these ra-dioactive elements, particles of which were carried up in the air by the explosion of atom bombs and which are now fall-

ing down again . Particularly dangerous are the elements combining long life with a relatively strong efamounts in the radioactive dust. ed as particularly dangerous.

Danger In Breathing The radioactivity in the air, increased through these elements, will not harm us from the outside, not being strong enough to penetrate the skin. It is another matter with respira-The material collected, al- tion, through which radioactive ation, though far from complete, al- elements can enter our bodies. lows us to draw the conclusion But the danger which has to diseases. The cells of the red

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This warning to the world of the dangers of continued explosion of nuclear bombs is excerpted from the recent Declaration Of Con-

not only by the downpour, but to radiation. . . . Of these elements some exist also from radioactive dust fallfor hours, some for weeks, or ing on it. And with the soil, months or years, or millions of the vegetation will also have years, undergoing continuous become radioactive. The radio-found decay. . . How long it will take active elements deposited in the dants. before everything carried up in soil pass into the plants, where

Plants To Animals To Man The radioactive elements in

with any certainty. According to grass, when eaten by animals age done to descendants of an-a wartime emergency power to case not earlier than thirty or will be absorbed and stored in to radioactive rays will not, in During World War 2, Congress our bodies.

> on contaminated soil, the obsorption is effected when we drink their milk. . . .

What we absorb of radioactivity . . . is deposited in certain parts of our body, particularly in the bone tissue and ficient radiation. Among them also in the spleen and in the Strontium 90 takes the first liver. From these sources the place. It is present in very large organs which are especially sensitive to it are exposed to radiation. What the radiation lacks in strength is compensated for by time. It works day one another again and again and night without interrupthat they want nothing more and night without interruption.

> What are the diseases caused by internal radiation? The same diseases that are known to be caused by external radi-

They are mainly serious blood bone marrow, where the red produce too few or abnormal, is longing for.

tion, but also that of our desmall particles of radioactive proved to be so radioactive that scendants. The fact is that the elements which decay like uran- it was unfit for drinking. . . cells of the reproductive or pany is similar to Days Beck's The soil is made radioactive gans are particularly vunerable pany is similar to Dave Beck's

> Danger To Those Unborn found damage to our descen-

to radioactive rays will not, in accordance with the laws of In the case of cows grazing genetics, be apparent in the generations coming immediately after us. The full effects will

> increase in the existing danger war, which plants, when the through further creation of ra- war was over, would be of lotdioactive elements by atom tle productive value for our civbomb explosions as a catastro- ilian economy. phe for the human race, a catastrophe that must be pre-vented . . . America and Soviet Russia and Britain are telling end the testing of atomic weapons . . . Why do they not come to an agreement? The real reason is that in their countries there is no public opinion asking for it.

concerned must inspire and ac-

"-And When They See This Sign, New Industries Will Rush In And Give You A Hand-I Think"



STRICTLY

Personal

By WEIMAR JONES

conference at Chapel Hill recent- order must be preserved. ly, I heard an interesting panel discussion on segregation.

rusaded for prompt integration. infinitely sacred.

Naturally, they disagreed on "Well" I asked

nearly everything; even the white liberal and the Negro had trouble getting together.

But on one point there was the form of a question: complete agreement. In almost identical words, all three emphasized that whatever is done must

VIEWS... By BOB SLOAN

Many people were shocked when Senator Wayne Morse, political marverick from the state of Oregon, charged the administration of President Eisenhower with immorality in government affairs.

Most of these same people were defenders of the Dixonnothing wrong with, why did something less than reverence for lucky on January 1, he'd be Attorney General Brownell have either law or order.

action in borrowing from union funds to make personal invest-To the profound damage of act, because no official of the these cells corresponds a pro- administration stood to gain monetarily as an individual, as It consists in stillbirths and similarity to warrant considerdid Beck, but there is enough in the birth of babies with ation by the taxpayers. Senamental or physical defects. . . . tor Morse has rendered a serv-The today effect of the dam- ice by bringing this misuse of

During World War 2, Congress passed laws which would allow companies to depreciate the cost of plant construction in a short period of time. This was appear only 100 or 200 years done to encourage industry to build plants essential for the We are forced to regard every successful prosecution of the

What the administration has done is to allow the Idaho Power Company to amortize and depreciate for tax purposes the cost of construction a huge dam. This dam can easily be profitthan to reach an agreement to able for 100 or 150 years. It is not, as some defense plants were, something whose usefulness may cease in five, ten, or 20 years.

This action was not, as Senator Morse pointed out, illegal, Public opinion in all nations but to use a law intended for one purpose for another pur-pose is, I think, immoral. And persons who aid and abet in such acts, even if only by giving danger not to be underrated— as a consequence of the in- cells in the bone marrow are be like the early sunrays of their consent, as is the case of and that further explosions of creased radioactivity in the damaged by radiation, they will hope which suffering humanity President Eisenhower, are guilty of immoral acts.

Attending an editorial writers' be done within the law, and that

quarrel with the idea that law heroes who have refused to ac-One of the three speakers rep- and order are desirable. But all cept that thesis? Are you going resented the viewpoint of the through the discussion, I found to repudiate them? Were they Southern conservative; the second myself wondering at the almost all criminals? presented the liberal attitude; the reverent tone in which they spoke third was a Negro who long has of law and order, as something,

"Well", I asked myself, "what's wrong with that?" Then, toward writes W. E. (Bill) the end of the discussion, the The Sanford Herald. answer came to me. It came in

of us, white or black, have if idea in the first place? we had not had ancestors who were willing to throw law out the window and precipitate violence? Take, for example, some rather highly respected citizens who, along about 1776, defied law and started violence that lasted some seven years. The law, in that case, was clear; and it was enacted by the duly constituted authorities. But that did not deter men like guess: Washington, Franklin, Adams, and Jefferson.

were defenders of the Dixon-tory; most freedom has been won really were in clover.

Yates deal, which if there was by men who had a feeling of And surely, if one were that

"So you hold law and order as something sacred? Then what

Now nobody, I am sure, would are you going to do with all the

Black-eyed peas on Year's are supposed to good luck through writes W. E. (Bill) Horner, in

Well, where did that folk custom come from? he wants to How much freedom would any know. How did people get that

Mr. Horner was interested enough to write the Encyclo-paedia Britannica for the answer. But the learned men who edit that vast compendium of knowledge didn't know.

Well, I'm no encyclopedist, much less a compendium of knowledge, but I'll hazard a

January is a long time from harvest. Anybody, in the old The same was true of those who days, who had anything to eat, defied King John and wrested the come New Year's, was lucky. Magna Carta from him. And it And if they had such a delichas been true down through his- acy as black-eyed peas, they

DO YOU REMEMBER?

Looking Backward Through the Files of The Press

65 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK (1892)

Mrs. Mary Bell met with a serious accident last Thursday morning before day. In attempting to pass from one room to another, where she had to step down some distance, she fell and broke her right arm and hip, inflicting very painful in-

Mr. J. D. Curtis, of Clay, father of the editor of The Press, arrived in Franklin Sunday morning and will remain some

Mr. Geo. Bidwell is getting lumber on the ground to build a fine large barn at his place on the east side of the iron

25 YEARS AGO (1932)

Walter Gibson, Gus Leach, and Erwin W. Long were nominated as the Democratic candidates for county commissioners in last Saturday's primaries, while John H. Dean, Robert H. Rogers, and the Rev. A. S. Solesbee were successful in securing the Republican nominations.

The Old Maids' Convention, which was given at the school house on May 28, was enjoyed thoroughly by all. The proceeds amounted to \$32. "Uncle" Wiley Caldwell, 89-year-old Confederate veteran, declared the show was worth a dollar of any man's money, and he is anticipating seeing it again when it is presented at the courthouse June 11.—West's Mill item.

Messrs. John Bolick, Earl Wood, and Bennett Barnes, of Marion, spent the week end with home folks.—Shookville item.

10 YEARS AGO

The Franklin board of aldermen voted Monday night to install 115 parking meters in the business district of the town. The mica properties of Andy W. Reid and others have been acquired by R. G. Lichtenstein, of Oil City, Penna., and associates, and a corporation is being formed to mine and process mica here. The firm's original investment will approximate \$300,000, according to Mr. Lichtenstein.

From a beautifully decorated stage, the 23 piano and voice pupils of Mrs. O. F. Summer, Mrs. Jack B. Davidson, and Miss Marion Lester were presented in recital Thursday night of last week at the high school auditorium.-Highlands item.