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## The Highlands Maconian

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**JUNE 20, 1957** 

# It's Curable

As many persons have observed, a major weakness of the one-way streets is that they invite speeding.

Unfortunately, in Franklin, the invitation has been accepted. Speeding, especially on Palmer Street, and notably on its eastern end, constantly grows worse. There are more and more speeders, and they drive faster and faster.

From Maple Street east to the intersection of Palmer with Main (at the foot of the East Town Hill), the prescribed speed limit is 20 miles. Well, in broad daylight, when traffic is heaviest, the automobile that keeps within that limit is the rare exception. Forty miles is probably the average, with 50 or 55 not uncommon. And at night, residents of the street say, the speeding is far worse.

This weakness of the one-way traffic system, happily, is not incurable. Three things are required to remedy the situation: (a) determination on the **part** of town officials; (b) enterprise and energy on the part of the police; and (c) strong medicine for those convicted of speeding.

It can be cured. And the penalty for failure to cure it is sure to be one or more deaths. It is all a question of time - whether the authorities get busy before or after a needless death.

# What's The Answer?

Is the 3,000-foot pass in the Cowee Mountain Range, between Franklin and Sylva, Cowee Gap or Watauga Gap?

In a letter in last week's Press, Mr. D. Hiden Ramsey, of Asheville, raised that question.

To many people hereabouts, it came as a surprise that there was any uncertainty about the name, because it generally is called "Cowee Gap". Mr. Ramsey points out, however, that some Forest Service maps and a recent one issued by the Stephens Press call it "Watauga Gap". And inquiry reveals that more than a quarter-century ago a Jackson County mapmaker -- the late Thomas A. Coxe, of Cullowhee -so listed it.

Since the gap is a break in the Cowee Mountains, it is easy to understand why it should be called "Cowee Gap". But why do the mapmakers call it "Watauga"? Does the "Watauga" come from the creek and the community of the same name on this side of the mountain?

# Happens All The Time

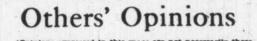
When disaster befell the Porter Thomas family, they were far away - it was not something right on our doorstep. Futhermore, the victims were unknown to many persons here.

But the people of this community were quick to realize that the aftermath of the automobile accident, with its heavy toll of death and injury, was a terrific financial burden. Here were people in deep trouble; people who, though they did not ask for it, could use some help. Well, they got help, almost immediately.

All that was necessary was facilities for helping. The ready sympathy of the people of Macon County did the rest. The money poured in; it came mostly in relatively small amounts ; hundreds donated. Within hours, nearly \$1,500 had been given.

It was a moving example of the kindliness, the generosity that is characteristic of Macon County people. But it was unusual in only one way - this was a somewhat spectacular instance of something that happens here all the time. Ask anybody, native or stranger, who has ever been in trouble here!

This kindliness, this good neighborliness, this generosity is one of the things that make us a great people. They are traits we must, at all odds, hold on to.



with a view to presenting a variety of viewpoints that is, just what the caption says - OTHERS

## Strange Creatures At. The Zoo

(Wall Street Journal)

A zoo is where animals look through the fence at some very strange creatures.

### **Only Knocks**

#### (Lion Magazine)

Opportunity knocks, but it has never been known to turn the knob and walk in.

### **Remember!** You're A Guest (Sylva Herald)

In planning your vacation trip this summer, will it include states other than North Carolina? If so, you should sharpen up your driving manners.

People in the places you visit will judge you and North Carolina largely by your behavior. North Carolina vacation motorists can do a good public relations job for our state if they remember that they are guests in other states and will observe the same courtesies they observe when they are guests in a friend's home.

Being a tourist gives one no special privileges. You are expected to obey all local traffic laws and regulations and be as courteous on the roads as you would be in the homes of your friends.

## \$10 In A Bottle

(St. Petersburg, Fla., Times)

There are few sights more discouraging in a large city than that of scraps of paper, discarded candy and gum wrappers, cigarette butts and other trash, blowing about the streets in a dreary, dirty dance of neglect.

St. Petersburg, fortunately, has been fairly successful in combatting this problem. Most of our citizens seem to use the trash containers on downtown streets.

The St. Petersburg Garden Clubs, and the Women's Service League through their Litter-Bug Campaign in elementary schools, have developed an excellent educational program among tomorrow's citizens,

Still, we might borrow an idea or two from San Antonio Texas, where beautification groups have done a great deal to make the public litter-conscious.

In a recent experiment, \$10 was placed in a "discarded" bottle laid some five feet from a street corner trash receptacle. Five hundred and seventy-nine persons passd by the bottle. The 580th picked it up and put it where it belonged-and received the \$10 as his reward!

"Sail On, O Head Of State! Sail On, O Luther, Strong And Great!"



STRICTLY

Dozens of times, for example. What newspaper people do, whether it's good or bad, is spread out for all the world to see and talk about. It is only natural, criticism, of boosts and boots.

Well, we on The Press welcome both. Not that we enjoy the boots; far from it! we're much too human not to wince at criticism.

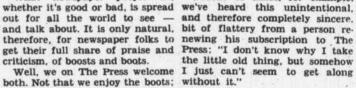
But we've found our critics can be helpful — if we'll just let 'em. For no matter how prejudiced and unreasonable, no matter how vicious even, a critic can give us a slant on the job we're doing we'd never get otherwise. All we have to do is ask ourselves, honestly "Well, now, is there some truth, maybe, in what the fellow says?"

Then, too there's nothing like a little humility to help a man keep his sense of proportion; and there's nothing like a thorough bit of tongue-lashing to bring a fellow down off the "high horse" most of us usually are astride.

We get our share of boots, of course. But we get our share of boosts, too - far more than we deserve. We've found that people, as a rule, are most charitable, and more than generous with their praise

VIEWS ...

By BOB SLOAN



Then there was the man, several years ago, who paid us this supreme compliment:

Personal

"You know, they used to say about The Press: 'If you want to sleep at night, read The Press just before you go to bed; then you'll have nothing on your mind.' Well, that just ain't so any more.'

And we especially prize one that came just the other day. In a let-ter, Mrs. George E. Anderson, of Franklin, Route 1, had this to say: "If we miss a copy of The Press,

it's like expecting an old friend and having them fail to come." "An old friend . . ." What more

could any newspaper ask! . . I'm not one to pine for the

'good old days". I don't think they were so good. On the other hand, I get fed less, up with politicians, industrialists, A and like gentry who rhapsodize about the wonders of our presentso hot, either.

### By WEIMAR JONES

For how can you admire a society that daily proves itself infinitely stupid?

To cite just four widely varying illustrations:

We take the most vital part out of a grain of wheat, when we turn it into flour. Then we kid ourselves into thinking it has been "enriched" — and pay extra for

We measure prosperity in terms of the number of persons working. But, ostrich-like, we fail to count the cost of social work, juvenile crime, and mental break-downs caused by the fact the ever-greater financial strain on the family forces more and more mothers of small children to work outside their homes

the trend toward bigger and bigger business, bigger and bigger farming, bigger and bigger labor, and bigger and bigger government -with the individual, infinitely more important than any of them, counting for less and less and

And we take a big share probably a third to a half - of our people's earnings in taxes, day civilization. I don't think it's and then spend four-fifths of the taxes for things related to war.

As suggested by Mr. Ramsey, this gap is too important and too historic for there to be uncertainty about its name.

Who can throw light on the subject?

## SOUTH AND STEREOTYPES WILL CHANGE DESTROY OLD STRENGTHS, DISTINCTIVENESS?

Dr. George Gallup has been Most of the images are flat- trees on the broad piazzas only poverty and in its Ashley Wilkes addition to creating local buying sampling opinion north and tering North and South—with a handful of the South's color- grandeur. What the New South interest, many people from neighbor the New South ful personalities remain, most- will become is still undeterminsouth of the Mason-Dixon Line, the South, as usual, carrying ly old widows waiting to die. ed, whether a medioere replica ful personalities remain, most-types still prevail. Yankees think Southern women are beautiful but in-clined to be lazy, physically Clid stereotypes still have a sassing freight train. Work of the Mason-Dixon Line, the South, as usual, carrying ly old widows waiting to die. ed, whether a medioere replica to boring towns will come of user and suburbia, the edge a bit in that depart-types still prevail. Yankees think Southern women are beautiful but in-chined to be lazy, physically beat. Numbers of all the 100 cars of formity with the mainstream of be able to offer.

Old stereotypes still have a passing freight train. and mentally. The mental porand mentally. The mental por-trait varies from Scarlett power. They stem from many Along with the Old South's Court decision, the another step toward making the form the step toward making the state of the state O'Hara to Pearl Lester. stage plays, books and personal and cultivation of beauty, went

Southerners think Yankees contact. are always "in a rush" and spend too much time trying to ly noted in "South, as Bill Polk wise- and dissipation, a product of heritage and climate, and a stir up trouble in the South. is fast-changing. It is caught sometimes cruel and rigid caste

Yankees consider Southern between the cloud cuckoo land system. To be "accepted" in the Northern men; they stick to dustrial revolution and urban The New South says "pooh migration. This is draining it pooh" to this, and builds its of old strength and old weak- own social groups around exe-Southerners like job oppor- ness. Lost, increasingly as the cutives of the new mill and the new suburbla takes over, are new country club. North but only one-half as the lovely tree-lined streets In the crumbling of the old the South must have south south south the flower to many Southerners would like to still the hallmarks of old patterns the many Southerners would like to still the hallmarks of old patterns the many southerners to the later of the most attractive spots in our town. Thanks and congratulations the new suburble says "pooh migration. This is draining it pooh" to this, and builds its of old strength and old weak- own social groups around exe-tor the least that can be said with each time they pass the Square. men well-mannered, but not as myth of magnolias and moon- small town of the Old South aggressive and energetic as light and the New South's in- made life easy, almost too easy.

therners like job oppor- ness. Lost, increasingly as the cutives of the new mill and the certainty is that old ways are Also, I think the flower boxes s and wage scales in the new suburbia takes over, are new country club. but only one-half as the lovely tree-lined streets. In the crumbling of the old the South must cope with the placed in front of their stores Southerners would like to still the hallmarks of old patterns the South loses much changes, or lose even more of add a great deal to the attractive-North as Northerners towns like Warrenton, Edenton of its distinctiveness — in its its strength and resources in ness of our town. The more the North as Southerners of patterns the Tobacco Road and Coon Hill the bitterness of partices at the presence of the street pattern between the stores of patterns the south like to still the town. The more the southerners would like to still the balterness of patterns the south loses much changes of patterns the south patterns the south like to still the place in the stores of our town. The more the North as Northerners towns like Warrenton, Edenton of its distinctiveness — in its its strength and resources in ness of our town. The more the southerness of patterns the south like to still the platerness of patterness of patternes many Southerners would like to still the would like to move South.

Where the courteous approach fails, the city puts additional push into the drive by enforcing some of the highest fines for littering in the nation.

ing what name shall be established as official.

a strong strain of dissoluteness

St. Petersburg more than most American cities owes it to herself to live up to her "beautiful place to live" reputation. We suggest that San Antonio's example may be well worth following.

The Sidewalk Carnival, to be conducted by the merchants of Franklin on Friday, June 28, can be a big thing. If it is a success, it can mean something to all of

us. "What?" and "How?" I am sure you will be asking.

In the first place, perhaps the Sidewalk Carnival needs a little explaining. It is another promotion by your local merchants to try to make Franklin grow into a bigger and better trading center. To attract attention, local merchants are going to literally line the sidewalks with bargains on June 28. It is hoped that, in

Where do you stand to gain? The more trade we can get here Many factors are working to locally, the better the selection of merchandise our merchants will

The Sidewalk Carnival is just gration, travel and most im- Franklin grow to be the best shopping center west of Asheville, Let's back it-with trade.

. . .

Rankin Square, which used to of the most attractive spots in our

and Salisbury. And under the Tobacco Road and Coon Hill the bitterness of partisan strife, prettier, however.

## **DO YOU REMEMBER?**

Looking Backward Through the Files of The Press

#### 65 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK (1892)

The creamery will cost, house, engine, appliances and all, \$3,000 to \$4,000 and should pay a return on the investment of 25 to 33 and 1/3 pct.-From a letter urging establishment of a creamery in Franklin.

"Waynesville. This is the county-site of Macon county, thirty miles west of Asheville."—Statesville Christian Advocate. Bro Wilson should look up his old geography. But, then, you know, Macon is a very familiar name, even where Haywood is not heard of .- Ed.

If a railroad would be put through to Franklin, that town would get much of the Highlands' business which now goes to Walhalla, the terminus of the present road. That business is estimated to be worth four or five thousand dollars annually.-Highlands item

#### 25 YEARS AGO (1932)

The Macon County baseball league came into full glory Saturday when all eight teams played regular games. One of the thrills of the afternoon was a home run made by Bill Green of West End in the game with Mountain Cove. The game was played on Holly Springs ground, which is located on the farm of C. L. Ingram. The Franklin team now has a place to play, due to the kindness of M. L. Dowdle, who has permitted the use of the grade just south of the depot.

Franklin lost to Sylva by only five points in a bowling tournament Tuesday night, Bowling for Franklin were Howard Barnard, Benny Reece, Phil McCollum, Tom Hunt, and Ralph Freeman

Messrs. Raymond Dalrymple and Britt Carpenter, of Franklin, who are camping here this week, are sick .-- Highlands item.

Miss Eloise Ramsey, of Coeburn, Va., is the house guest of Mr. and Mrs. Wade Moody.-Iotla item.

#### **10 YEARS AGO**

When Macon Superior Court convenes in August, women may be drawn for duty on petit juries for the first time in the county's history.

Next year's county-wide tax rate probably will be the same as this year's-\$1.10 per hundred dollars' valuation.

Greensboro Daily News

formity with the mainstream of be able to offer. the nation\_the U.S. Supreme The Sidewalk

portantly new industry.

For as new industry replaces old agrarianism, even in a small-farm state like North

Carolina, it produces its own be quite an eyesore, is now one cultural patterns. And these may be like the patterns in all