

The Franklin Press
and
The Highlands Maconian

Second class mail privileges authorized at Franklin, N. C.
Published every Thursday by The Franklin Press

Telephone 24

Established in 1888 as The Franklin Press
Member: N. C. Press Association, National Editorial Association,
Carolina Press Photographers Association, Charter member, National
Conference of Weekly Newspaper Editors.

BOB S. SLOAN
WEIMAR JONES
J. P. BRADY
MRS. ROBERT BRYSON
MRS. BOB SLOAN
CARL P. CABE
CHARLES WHITTINGTON
FRANK A. STARRETTE
G. E. CRAWFORD
HOWARD JOHNSON
E. CLEVE KINGSBERRY
DAVID SUTTON

Publisher and Advertising Manager
Editorial Editor
News Editor
Office Manager
Society Editor
Operator Machinist
Operator
Compositor
Pressman
Stereotyper
Salesman
Commercial Printer

SUBSCRIPTION RATES			
INSIDE MACON COUNTY	OUTSIDE MACON COUNTY		
One Year	\$3.00	One Year	\$3.50
Six Months	2.00	Six Months	2.25
Three Months	1.25	Three Months	1.50
Two Years	5.25	Two Years	6.25
Three Years	7.50	Three Years	9.00

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1958

Politics And School Boards

Except in a few counties, school boards in North Carolina are named in a curious way. They are nominated in the primary, but must be appointed by the General Assembly.

Designed for the Reconstruction period, the purpose of this arrangement was to wrest control of the schools from a corrupt carpetbag government. Since that condition no longer exists, the plan is obsolete—and has been for nearly a hundred years.

In an editorial, reprinted on this page, the Greensboro Daily News calls this method of naming school boards "indefensible and asinine".

It lists these reasons why:

The people of each county have a right to make sure their county board of education is accountable to them and that it is so constituted it can work with the board of commissioners, the agency that appropriates the money for schools.

The plan is undemocratic, "a subterfuge and sham, aimed at assuring Democratic boards in the few counties where Republicans are in the majority," thus enabling the Legislature to "override majority rule."

Since it centers control in Raleigh, it may jeopardize the Pearsall plan, the heart of which is the assumption that the schools are operated on the local level.

Except for the last one, all these objections have been voiced over a long period of years—without result. There is another argument, though, to which the Legislature sometime is going to listen. The present undemocratic and high-handed method of naming school boards is bad politics. It is, for the very reason it is undemocratic and high-handed.

This and similar tactics that betray a Democratic party attitude of "maybe it is wrong, but what are you going to do about it?" is creating resentment among those who believe in fair play and democratic methods.

And that resentment is showing up where it hurts worst—in the ballot box. For it is no accident that North Carolina has a Republican in its Congressional delegation, the first since the Hoover sweep of 1928. It is no accident that there was a record number of Republicans in the 1957 General Assembly. And it is no accident that the North Carolina Republican vote for President is steadily growing; it climbed from 26 per cent in 1940 to 49 per cent in 1956. All this, despite the fact that the Democratic party in this state has, on the whole, given the state good government!

The smartest politics the Democratic party in North Carolina could play would be to give more than lip service to the principles of democracy and fair play. And there could be no better place to start than turning back to the people of the counties the right to elect the officials who run their schools.

It'll Cost You More

The cost of automobile liability insurance is going up.

If you paid, say, \$20 for liability insurance on your car or truck this year, next year it will cost you \$22.20—11 per cent more.

The increase probably was inevitable, under North Carolina's new compulsory liability law. Because that law requires every vehicle on the road to be insured, and it leaves the insurance companies no choice about whom they insure; they must accept the bad risks as well as the good ones.

The result has been more claims against the insurance companies—so many more claims that the state has granted them an 11 per cent rate increase. They had asked for an increase of 19 per cent, and if the wrecks—particularly the fatal ones—continue, they probably will get it year after next, or the year after that.

What's the answer? repeal the law?

That would be the simplest way out, but it would leave the very problem the law seeks to solve: No

"You'll Just Have To Do More Than Just Smoking
And Chewing The Rag, Friend"



STRICTLY PERSONAL By WEIMAR JONES

Newspapermen are a strange lot. Week in and week out, they publicize everything and everybody worth publicizing—friend and foe alike. But when they themselves make news, when it comes time to put their names in the paper, they are likely to become shy and even self-conscious. (Maybe it's a little like a doctor's not wanting to treat members of his own family.)

That probably accounts for the fact that an interesting sidelight on last week's "Pilots Ruby Rendezvous" went unreported in the news columns of The Press—it had to do with the news editor of The Press. It was the presentation, by a small group of Macon County persons, of a gift to J. P. Brady, in recognition of his untiring efforts on this unique promotional project.

Mr. Brady, of course, is not the only person who worked hard to make the fly-in the success it was; there are many others to whom the community owes appreciation.

And so I suspect that what happened was in the nature of a build-up; the donors must have had in mind not the fly-in alone, but the long series of community projects to which John Brady has given his enthusiasm, his energy, and his ability and willingness to be everywhere and do everything that needed doing. The Franklin Centennial celebration in 1955 and the annual Folk Festival are only two of the more notable of such projects.

Speaking in a strictly personal way, I'd say that John Brady has his full share of the shortcomings that beset all of us humans—and that I know them all. He'd probably tell you, in fact, that I have been his severest critic.

But because I know of nobody who has worked harder and longer and more enthusiastically

A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLE

Adopted unanimously by the North Carolina Press Association at its 50th Annual Institute in Chapel Hill N. C., on January 22, 1955.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is National Newspaper Week, October 1 to 8. It is a proper time for newspapers to remind themselves of their obligations, as well as to remind the public of the services newspapers perform. Hence it seems appropriate to re-print the "code" by which North Carolina newspapers and newspapermen try to live.)

provides space for contrary opinion. The good editor often takes sides, but without arrogance or intolerance. He champions boldly the rights of the people, sometimes against government itself. He provides leadership, particularly in his own community. He has a special responsibility to defend the weak, to prod the public conscience, and to speak out against the injustices of which a majority can sometimes be guilty.

IV

The primary function of a newspaper is to report the news. The good reporter strives constantly to find and write the truth. This task, no matter how difficult, is his unescapable responsibility.

To be true, a story, together with its headlines, must be honest. To be honest, it must be fair. To be fair, it must be accurate and complete.

Honesty demands objectivity, the submergence of prejudice and personal conviction. Fairness demands regard for the rights of others. Accuracy demands courage, painstaking care, and persistence to assure a total picture as true as its individual facts.

V

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?
Is it fair?
Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

UNCLE ALEX'S SAYIN'S

Folks keep a-tellin' me, "better git to work, or you'll be behind". Shucks! the only thing that'll make most of us git to work is bein' behind.

What a lot o' folks that talk about bein' "realistic" really mean is accepin' somethin' they know ain't right but that they're either too lazy or too cowardly to buck.

Somebody's always thinkin' up new words to confuse a feller. Take, f'rinstance, all this talk about white and colored people. First, the word ev'rbody was usin' was "segregation". Then we started hearin' about "desegregation". Next it was "integration". T'other day I heard a new un, "nonintegration". Next thing you know, like as not, we'll be all be talkin' about "antideintegration"—and wonderin' what the heck it is.

III

Every citizen deserves the stimulus of a strong editorial page, on which the editor voices his own well-informed opinion, clearly and forcefully; yet willingly

IV

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

V

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

VI

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

VII

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

VIII

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

IX

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

X

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

XI

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

XII

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

XIII

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

XIV

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

XV

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

XVI

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?

Is it accurate?

To the end that they can more frequently answer these questions in the affirmative, the newspapers of North Carolina adopt this statement of principle.

XVII

The final test of every story, every headline, every editorial, every newspaper is:

Is it honest?

Is it fair?