

BLACK Mountain News
Dedicated to the growing Swannanoa Valley
Winner of NCPA award 1978-1979

Published each Thursday at Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Second class postage paid at Black Mountain, N.C.
Pub. No. USPS 057-400 Established 1945

Cynthia Reimer, Editor
Trina O'Donnell, Advertising Coordinator
Mary Mauldin, Classified & Circulation Manager
Dennis Harris, Mechanical Supervisor
Renold Madrazo, Advertising Sales
Published weekly by Mountain Media, Inc.,
P.O. Box 8
Black Mountain, N.C. 28711. Phone 704 669-8727

We could do worse!

by Kenneth Hudgins
Franklin Press

Most of us in the newspaper business generally shy away from writing anything about mistakes, or typographical errors. And, for a good reason. Often, such humorous writing is quickly followed by some not-so-humorous typo in one's own newspaper.

I'll take the chance here. I was reminded of an age-old "bad example" used by journalism professors the other day, while in conversation with *The Press*'s classified advertising majordomo, Margaret Bulgin. We were talking about an error in a classified ad, and about how-- once you make an error in somebody's ad, it sometimes seems to get worse before it even starts to get any better. That reminded me of this old chestnut, and I told Margaret about it briefly.

It goes like this:
"Here is an example of a simple typographical error's growing to disastrous proportions as it was produced, and reproduced, in a small daily newspaper's classified advertising section.

"FOR SALE-- R.D. Jones has one sewing machine for sale. Phone 788-9588 after 7 p.m. and ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with him cheap.

"Tuesday, the ad was corrected to read: NOTICE-- We regret having erred in R.D. Jones' ad yesterday. It should have read: One sewing machine for sale. Cheap. Phone 788-9588 and ask for Mrs. Kelly who lives with after 7 p.m.

"The correction was corrected Wednesday, reading: R.D. Jones has informed us that he has received several annoying telephone calls because of the error we made in his classified as yesterday. His ad stands corrected as follows:

"FOR SALE-- R.D. Jones has one sewing machine for sale. Cheap. Phone 788-9588 after 7 p.m. and ask for Mrs. Kelly who loves with him.

"Finally, on Thursday, Mr. Jones corrected the ad himself, by inserting this second advertisement-- under the "personals" classification:

"NOTICE-- I, R.D. Jones, have no sewing machine for sale. I smashed it. Don't call 788-9588, as I've had the telephone taken out. I have not been carrying on with Mrs. Kelly. Until yesterday, she was my housekeeper, but she quit!

This is the law

Sponsored by The Lawyers of North Carolina

Must loser always pay legal fee?

Sponsored by The Lawyers of North Carolina
It sometimes comes as a surprise for a person being sued to learn that if he wins the suit, he will still have to pay his lawyer's fee. Many people think that the losing party always has to pay the lawyer's fee for both sides. But such is not usually the case.

True, there are a few instances where the losing party must pay the fee of the lawyer on the other side. One example often occurs in a suit on a promissory note. Some notes now provide that if it becomes necessary to bring a

suit to collect, the person who signed the note has to pay the fee of the lawyer who brings the suit. Under North Carolina law, this provision is enforceable, but the amount of the fee can't be more than 15 percent of the amount of the outstanding indebtedness.

Except in certain kinds of cases, each party is responsible for paying his own lawyer.

An informational pamphlet concerning lawyer's fees is available at North Carolina public libraries, provided by The Lawyers of North Carolina. The pamphlet is free.



The Circuit Rider

Good manners are the happy way of doing things.

Robert F. Harris

Living and Growing

Picking your flavor

by Carl Mumpower, M.S.W. Asheville Counseling Center
Newspapers tend to have a pretty lousy reputation. People are frequently heard complaining about how they only contain bad news and ignore the good things going on in the world. There is probably some legitimacy to the fact that newspapers focus a bit too much on the negative, but I wonder how much of the complaining is a reflection on the reader vs. the people who put the news together. Much as beauty is in the eyes of the beholder, so too is our perception of life determined



by our attitudes and emphasis toward what's good and what's bad. Unfortunately, a lot of us put most of our attention on the negative end of things. We find it easier to notice what's broken over what's fixed, what's dirty over what's clean, and what's dead

over what's alive. That might tell you why we're sometimes better at attending our friends' funerals than paying attention to them while they're among the living. Bad and good have always been a part of life. In reality there is no such thing as the "good old days" we like to talk about. Those days contained as many problems as these days, although our memory may have dimmed the bad parts. Some times may seem worse than others, but you can pretty well bet that the good and the bad more or less balance out. There's a pretty

even mixture of the two and it's that evenness that sometimes confuses us. You see, negatives have a natural tendency to be more visible than positives. They hurt more, so we pay them more attention. They are usually louder and more graphic than positive occurrences so they catch our attention easier. Positives on the other hand tend toward subtlety and a low profile that often leaves their presence unnoticed by those who aren't really keeping their eyes open. That last part brings us to the guts of what I wanted to share. You have the option of picking

the flavor of your world. Good or bad, you've got the choice. Everything, from your favorite newspaper to your work to people in general, has a mixture of good and bad things and it is your decision as to which you'd like to emphasize. Chances are that you, like many of us, have been brought up to put more emphasis on the negatives than the positives, and so it won't be easy to change directions. You do have the power to do so, however, and the pay-offs are many. People with an eye on the good stuff find life a little more

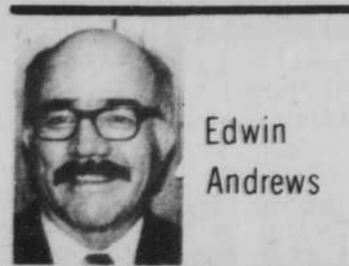
fulfilling. They also find it easier to be happy and to avoid that sense of depression and hopelessness that possesses much of the world around us. Besides, people with an optimistic outlook can take the day-to-day hassles of life better, because they don't feel quite so surrounded by bad guys as the pessimists among us do. So, pick your flavor. The choice is your own, but keep in mind the long term effects that choice will have. It can mean the difference between a life that is bitter and unhappy and one that is exciting and meaningful. Make the right choice.

Apropos

Independence Day in Viet Nam

by Edwin R. Andrews

The weather in An Khe, Vietnam, that day was spectacular. The Fourth of July, 1966, was a Monday, and came complete with a soft, lovely kind of weather that seems peculiar to southeast Asia. The dawn was so marked by unreal light and shadow and color that you'd think there never had been another sunrise, that all of nature's effort had been concentrated in this one, that she had packed it for eons in a



cotton-lined box, just awaiting this occasion. The day began pleasantly for me in other ways as well. I kept going back to the thought

that my "turtle" (replacement) was here, and that I would have maybe two more weeks before I rotated home to my family. That is, I thought of this until I talked to a soldier named Morales, who was going home earlier than his scheduled time. Morales' brother, in another unit of the First Air Cavalry Division, had been wounded on July 3rd, and had died during the night. We got word on the Fourth that Morales was going home as escort.

Another soldier, a sergeant, came by on July Fourth, too. He brought a letter from his wife for me to read and discuss with him. In it, she told him of a \$3,500 debt at home-- and of her desire for a divorce. A special day for this man, too. It was after this talk that the Phantom jets came over in their salute to the Fourth of July. They buzzed us at tent-level and then roared straight up into the blue, blue sky. A really impressive performance, but not one that

helped. Not under the circumstances. But the mail that morning of the Fourth brought in something that did help. At least it helped me. Back in Coosada, Alabama, Mr. and Mrs. Don Adams and their family had gone to the trouble to sign and pack and mail two whole boxes of Fourth of July cards. Each card had a picture of the American flag on the front, and a short message inside: "We appreciate you and what you are doing." I spent a good

part of Independence Day passing these cards around to my soldiers. That was all. The day closed with a sunset as lovely as the dawn had been. It seemed that darkness did not come. Rather, lines and objects grew dim and fuzzy, as the day was slowly erased and ceased to be.

Reflections

Crazy or courageous?

by Gretchen Corbitt

The cheering of the galleries from the bleacher pews resounded an emotion that many decades ago the powers would have come down hard on. It was not an elation over a win or a loss but for naked brashness and stark rebellion against authority.

"He's going to have to clean up his act or somebody will have to clean it up for him," roared an umpire after the contestant had labelled him "an incompetent fool."

A quirk in the personality overshadows the rare gifts to stamp them with a trademark that has nothing to do with loyalty and patriotism to define one's country.

What has happened to the old virtue as prescribed by Confucius, the old moral teacher, "To be able under all circumstances to practise five things constitutes perfect virtue; these five are gravity, generosity of soul, sincerity, earnestness and kindness?"

That staunch American statesman, John C. Calhoun, once asked the question, "By what causes has so inconsiderable a beginning, as that of the colonies of New England, under such formidable, and apparently almost insurmountable difficulties, resulted, in so brief a period, in such mighty consequences?"

He answered his own question in provocative words, "They are to be found in the high moral and intellectual qualities of the pilgrims: their faith, piety, and confident trust in a superintending Providence; their stern vir-



ties; their patriotic love of liberty and order; their devotion to learning; and their indomitable courage and perseverance. These are the causes which surmounted every obstacle, and which have led to such mighty results."

Yesterday it was a hotdog and a coke, today it is millions of dollars. To retain the level for some, the adrenalin must flow regardless of what it might cost the other guy. A contemporary philosophy invades the land, "More over here I come and don't you dare stop me." A psyched-up adrenalin flow can be like a deadly viper blow. A curse or a blessing?

What excites the race driver to strap himself into the incendiary bomb and speed off to 180 miles per hour? Is he downright crazy or courageous?

Apparently, there is that need for recurring exposure to situations where the proportion between anxiety, danger and fear remains within the confines of personal control. In order to escape from the blazes, tension, up-tight feelings that are associated with everyday living there is a repeated need to extend oneself to physical, emotional and mental limits. To some persons unless their

true ability is contested they find very little joy in life. They perform more than anything to have the odds against them because they find they can do their best when their ego is

being challenged. Why such thrills to an actor who can be his best on stage? Is it to parade his genius talent or is it the feeling he gets between him and his audience

and it is the only time he really feels grown-up and in control of things? Gifts are precious in any arena. The possessor does not come by them easily. They are

like precious stones that have to be chiselled to glow their best and have to be kept polished for that special luster, easily abused and lost if not safeguarded.

God ordained responsibility

Written and illustrated by A. Wayne Wilhelm
National polls allege to show trends in the way people think. This claim to be a reliable

barometer has been discredited as shown by the results in the recent presidential election. Many of the pollsters gave out statistics that were no

more dependable than their political clients who made grandiose promises but later on failed to produce.

A recent poll concerning religion shoes how lacking in comprehension polls can be. The Gallup Youth Survey, conducted to ascertain the "knowledge" of teenagers with regard to the Bible, leaves much to be questioned, for its value as an indicator of religious understanding is minimal. Commenting on the results of the poll, Mr. Gallup wrote, "If American teenagers depended on their knowledge of the Bible to get into heaven, many of them may be headed for the other place." The use of the word heaven indicates that he was referring to the Judeo-Christian religion. If the writer had only a meager knowledge of what the Bible teaches, he would know that Bible knowledge is not a one-way ticket to either place, but that faith in, belief in, and obedience to God is the route to heaven.

The Gallup Survey continues, "Only three teens in 10 were correctly able to answer three simple and basic questions drawn from the new Testament." These three questions comprised the quiz: 1, The names of the four gospels; 2, The number of disciples; 3, The meaning of Easter. Questions one and two are not basic at all, for they ask only for a mere statement of facts. Knowing facts about the Bible has no bearing on the spiritual understanding or faith of the individual, so it is misleading to claim, as the survey does, "The current quiz results represent further evidence of the low state of biblical knowledge among the youth of this country." The key word is knowledge, but in the Judeo-Christian religion, knowledge is not what is considered important. Its concern is people--people and their relation to their Creator, the omnipotent God of the universe.

In the matter of religion, knowledge can be merely an accumulation of Bible facts, or it can be the essential understanding of God and a conception of spiritual things, such as knowing God's will and the way of salvation which is in Christ. In the latter instance, spiritual wisdom is a more fitting term than knowledge. The wisdom of God's divine purpose is what identifies

those who are truly educated in the Judeo-Christian religion. In Colossians 2:3 we are told that, "In Christ are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Wisdom in this world comes from looking to God who made it, upholds it, and redeems it. That requires putting faith in the omnipotent God. Where can that sublime wisdom of God be found? The wise counsel of God concerning spiritual truth is found in the doctrine of the gospel, the salvation of man by Christ crucified. It is not found by knowing the names of the four gospels or the number of disciples.

Answers given by the teenagers to question 3, the "meaning of Easter," were commendable. According to the poll, 71 percent were able to describe what Easter means. However, this was somewhat diluted by the added report, "The fact that 20 percent of those who attend religious services regularly didn't know why Easter is celebrated will be shocking to religious leaders." Shocking, indeed, when one fifth of teens regularly in church don't know why the most important event in their religion is joyously celebrated! This is surely an indictment of adults who are responsible before God for educating the young in spiritual matters.

The Bible gives enlightenment as to what these matters are. Not facts but faith, not what one knows but what one believes. Bible facts are minor in importance to faith and belief. Getting these concepts across and into the hearts of young people is where the church and the home either succeed or fail.

To teach faith and belief in God is the major task America faces in the spiritual education of the younger generation. Adults--parents and church leaders--are delinquent if those concepts are not made meaningful and clear to those in their care. God ordained that responsibility specifically to them. Have they met their responsibility, or have they failed by putting the emphasis on secular knowledge instead of on spiritual wisdom?

HAVE WE FAILED THEM?



Letter to the editor

Sunday in Park praised

To the editor:

On behalf of the "Sunday in the Park" Committee and the Old Depot Association, I want to say a hearty thank you for the excellent coverage given this event in the Black Mountain News. It was truly a great day at Lake Tomahawk, and you played a big part in helping make it so.

We think that, undoubtedly, the first "Sunday in the Park" program at the lake was quite successful and, indeed, a delightful afternoon. Most gratifying was the large attendance and, best of all, was the aura of pure enjoyment that pervaded--fun, fellowship and good spirits, all to the tune of good music. Both young and old appeared equally glad to be there, bringing to mind a resounding note from Genesis:

"and God saw that it was good."

It was evident from the orderly, happy response from the audience that there is a desire, as well as a need, for this kind of family-oriented entertainment. Having had splendid cooperation and help from an active committee, Mrs. Alice Schweitzer and the black Mountain Recreation Department, the Street and Police Departments, the Black Mountain News and several businesses during the planning and implementation of this first program, graciously provided by Quality Forward of Asheville, we think an on-going program in the park at intervals during the summer months is possible if a concerted, organized effort is made by the townspeople.

The Old Depot Association and the Recreation Department of the Town of Black Mountain are eager to work with anyone who is interested in pursuing this goal, and we urge you to come forth and volunteer, or at least call or write to express your interest. Our grateful thanks go to the Black Mountain Town Council for making it possible for the Old Depot Association to accept Quality Forward's offer to come to Lake Tomahawk to share with us part of their Grassroots Grant from the North Carolina Arts Council. It was a joy and a thrill to be a part of this joint effort between

the state, county and two cities, including the coordinating of the program by the Community Arts Council in Asheville.

We hope this is the beginning of many more worthwhile activities at Lake Tomahawk. Edith M. Jackson, administrator The Old Depot Association

Editors note: An article last week in the News regrettably failed to credit the Black Mountain Recreation Department for its part in the success of "Sunday in the Park".

"Character is like a tree and reputation its shadow. The shadow is what we think it is; the tree is the real thing." Abraham Lincoln

"It is good to be merry at meals." English Proverb