

The Mountaineer

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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION Active Member

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 1941

REA Extends

This week we take pleasure in presenting the history and expansion of Rural Electrification lines in Haywood County. We doubt if the group of progressive citizens who organized the Cruso Mutual Electric Company, now the Cruso Electric Membership Corporation, back in 1937, realized how much their efforts would amount to in Haywood County.

For the picture grows and expands as one contemplates not only the families who are having electricity in their homes in our mountain coves and valleys, but also those who profit in other ways from the establishment and extension of the lines.

In August, 1939 when the Carolina Power and Light Company energized the lines up the Pigeon Valley, giving light and its accompanying conveniences, a new day for rural life began, not only for the immediate section, but for the entire county.

Other communities realized that if Pigeon Valley had electricity, that there should be no reason why their section could not have this modern convenience. As a result of this initial movement, the greater part of the county now has the advantage of electricity. Rural life in Haywood County will be completely revolutionized by this one movement, not only in the present, but in the years ahead.

There are now approximately 500 families being served by the Cruso Lines in the county, which extend, with three exceptions into every township of Haywood.

When the government established the Rural Electrification Administration in Washington to assist the rural communities of the nation to have electricity, it inaugurated one of the greatest services ever rendered to the country population. It is said that the original purpose of the Administration has been and continues to be carried out in a remarkable manner.

The reduction in the costs of construction has been an important factor, because electricity has been brought within the economic reach of more farmers, than would have been possible for generations to come.

As new projects have been started over the country construction methods on rural lines have been improved. Private enterprises have been stimulated through the purchase of millions of dollars worth of materials and for equipment to use in the homes and on the farms.

It is said that the number of radios, refrigerators, milk coolers, feed grinders, farm motors, poultry brooders, and other appliances, bought by rural families, is daily on the increase.

It was learned recently that the Cruso Electric Membership Corporation plans to go over into Jackson County and that within a small radius they expect to increase their membership by some 200 subscribers.

There can be no accurate summary of the economic advantages or the values in human happiness and convenience to the rural citizens of our county in this progressive movement.

The Public's Guess

A nation-wide survey by the Gallup poll recently shows that the public has guessed the amounts required for income tax by Uncle Sam in most cases all wrong, and that the "average citizen" has been more lenient with the high salaried executive than the government.

For the head of a family, with two children, earning \$3,000, the public thinks he pays \$30, and should be assessed \$60, when in reality Uncle Sam does not require any tax on his income.

The public according to the survey feels that a man under similar conditions earning \$5,000 pays \$100, but should pay \$200, whereas he hands over \$130 to the government.

The man with the salary of \$10,000 was guessed in the survey to pay \$300, while it was adjudged that he should pay \$600, but from him the government exacts \$750.

But the widest mark missed in the survey was the income tax of the man with a \$100,000 income, who was thought to pay \$5,000, when he should be paying \$10,000, and in reality is taxed \$46,000 by the government.

The last guess perhaps is significant in that often the smaller salaried person, who considers with envious concern that high powered executive, does not realize that along with his salary go many responsibilities, which often reduce his actual income far below the mark guessed by the man in the lower bracket.

Hog raising in Haywood has always been done on a hit-and-miss plan, with no special attention given. Now the swine family seems to be coming into its own in Haywood, since the purebred program is underway.

It all sums up to this, that Haywood will soon be known for its purebredness in everything.

"HOUNDS OF SPRING"



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

"Lamp lighting time in the valley" (s) of Haywood county will shortly be a thing of the past... but it will always have a pleasing homey association... for there is something about the shadows of night coming on in the country... and gathering around the lighted lamp... that has held a charm... that perhaps the ease of the method will never hold... and the "lamp lighting area" will continue to bring memories to the older generation... but this coming of light out of darkness... for the people of Haywood rural sections is one of the greatest marks of progress of our day and time... Just to think in more than 500 homes in the country... there will be no more lamp chimneys to clean and polish... no more smelly kerosene lamps to fill... just a button to press... to say nothing of washing machines and all the other labor-saving devices that come from the magic of electricity... We have been wondering what the home demonstration club women will do with the old flat irons... that will no longer be needed... these women are so clever about utilizing everything... that we feel sure that something artistic will be evolved out of the old discarded flat iron... and its former state of usefulness will be turned into some permanent decorative form... Our imagination take flights into realities... when we think of the burdens that electricity will lift from the shoulders of the busy housewives on Haywood farms... all the result of the REA...

When one enters the door of the home of the Clayton Walkers... one stops short for the array of hooked rugs scattered about the rooms is so lovely... that one's admiration is spontaneously given... but wait you have something still more interesting to see... if Mrs. Walker asks you in the big sun room back of the house... which by the way is about the most inviting spot we've seen in some time... here you will stop suddenly as you reach the door of the room... when you see her latest example of her "hooking ability"... it is fashioned from an old design... one of the "museum" rugs... that came out in colors in Life... last January without exceptions it is the most exquisite thing we have seen in a rug in this vicinity... on a grayish background... made incidentally from old homespun blankets dating back 60 years ago... that had once been dyed a dark color... and Mrs. Walker spent hours bleaching back to "natural"... and the intricate design wrought in a perfect combination of colors... make it simply tops in a hooked rug to us... just to show its beauty... we had business with Mrs. Walker... but after seeing that rug we completely forgot the object of our visit... and not until we got half way home did we think of what we had gone to see her about...

Phyllis: "Yes, she was furious about the way in which the newspaper reported her marriage." Mary: "Why, did it allude to her age?" Phyllis: "Indirectly. It stated that 'Miss Board and Mr. Hales were married, the latter being a well-known collector of antiques.'"

Whether you live in the town or whether you live 15 miles in the country... you'll find something to interest you at the Armory on Friday and Saturday... so we cordially invite you to drop around and take a look at the exhibits and enjoy the program... there are a lot of us who have lived with electricity in our homes... who have not taken advantage of its possibilities... in many forms... so don't forget... it's a date... We'll meet you at the Armory and discuss our needs... for the home...

We had a lot of sympathy for Gene Alley during the last snow... Gene came down from his office to get in his car... but he saw that it was covered in snow... so he started in pushing and heaving to get the fenders clear... then the top and back... and so on until the car looked pretty well free of snow... all exhausted from so much effort... he pulled his keys with a big sigh of relief... the key wouldn't work... then he looked closer... and to his utter astonishment... he found that he had cleaned off the other fellow's car and that his was across the street practically buried in snow...

Enthusiasm ran high Saturday when the Waynesville high school band came out with flying colors... in the district contest held in Asheville... and made a class I rating... which entitles them to enter the state contest... and the funny thing about it was... that no one could have been more surprised than the band students themselves... The girls' glee club also came out with a rating of I... making them eligible to enter the regional contest for Southern states from Maryland to Florida to be held in Richmond... while on the subject... we would like to congratulate the high school on the very excellent program heard on Western North Carolina Schools on Parade over WWNC... Sunday night... each number was a credit to any school...

Berlin And Rome Show Evidence Of Rough Going

By CHARLES P. STEWART Central Press Columnist

Voice OF THE People

What piece of legislation passed by the recent General Assembly do you consider will prove to be the most beneficial to the largest number of citizens of the state?

Miss Edna Hayes—"Addition of the 12th grade. I think it will mean more to the future citizens of North Carolina than any other piece of legislation passed."

J. R. Boyd—"The reorganization of the highway commission and the board of conservation and development."

Walter Crawford—"I feel that vocational education will mean more to the people in general than any other measure passed."

M. H. Bowles—"I feel that the retirement plan for teachers and state employes will effect more people in the long run than any other piece of legislation."

Judge Felix E. Alley—"I would say that there are two pieces of legislation that will have a far reaching effect. The retirement plan for teachers and the abolition of fortified wines. Most of the drunks who appear before me in court and the law suits that are tried involve drunks who have gotten intoxicated on these wines."

C. F. Kirkpatrick—"I think the addition of the 12th grade in our schools will prove to be more beneficial than any other one piece of legislation passed by the General Assembly."

Joe Howell—"The one outstanding piece of legislation to my mind, is the addition of the 12th grade to our schools."

Noble Garrett—"I would say that the appropriation for vocational education would effect more people than anything else. So many of our young people go through school and do not learn to work."

W. R. Francis—"I am a great believer in education, and a supporter of all legislation dealing with progress in education. I would say that the outstanding piece of legislation passed by the recent legislature was the retirement plan for teachers."

C. B. Atkinson—"I think that the appropriation made for vocational training was one of the best things the legislature did while in session."

"Why is George Washington described as 'first in war and first in peace?'" "I dunno," replied Senator Sorghum. "I suspect somebody was trying to square him with both the preparedness people and pacifists."

YOU'RE TELLING ME!

By WILLIAM RITT Central Press Writer

ONE CAN always tell when the sports writers have given up hope for the local baseball team. It's when they start referring to the club as a "possible dark horse." Grandpappy Jenkins says we can never attain true national unity until we all play the same system of contract bridge. Arabians drink an average of 30 cups of coffee a day. They must suffer from a continual shortage of doughnuts. Eastern golf courses may be converted into aircraft landing fields, we read. Just a case of exchanging one type of man-made birdie for another. We should endure blustery March, a writer tells us, because it introduces lovely April. Yeah, but March is one whole day longer than April! Zadok Dumbkopf says he has not yet seen the first robin of spring but, unfortunately, he has already heard the first poet. And the man at the next desk remarks that we have now reached that time of year where a fellow not only has broken 'em all but can't even remember what his New Year resolutions were!

SCOTT'S SCRAP BOOK By R.J. SCOTT



BERLIN AND Rome, state department interpreters from these two strictly censored sources, nishing the most convincing proofs that things are going with the European Axis. From Berlin recently information that Herr H. remorselessly squelched in Holland—Oh, he doubt squelched 'em, but his statement that he's done so is an admission from a authority that there were disorders that required so. And it was as good as as Signor Mussolini, who that the Fascists were a lickered in northern Africa even the British said they Adolf and Benito ought if anybody.

Benito's revelation was the point of being funny, dently had leaked out in that Il Duce's forces were run on the southern side Mediterranean, and it app the Italians, at home, we ning to mutter that he'd to send enough of 'em field of activity or to keep up adequately. Seeming he made that speech of ago, to the effect that his military outfit was, too plenty more numerous a equipper than Italy and the world had given it being. Well, if it was und and skimpily armed it had case for being licked. But he asserted, it hadn't even case, for taking its lick Albania. Benito hotly de the Italians there were into a cocked hat by the to any failure of his own enough of 'em across the or to furnish 'em with guns, munitions and avia simply have been trounc perior Greek fighting though Benito didn't put that way.

Not His Fault The nub of it is that, ye been licked, but it wasn't The inference draw Benito's reports is that adored more territory than ing to be able to keep l subjection.

The Dutch already an according to his own ac he has had to declare Ger rule throughout all the Netherlands. Presumably tive there at present, but a nuisance to him to have hostility sizzling that he on it with a big milita prevent it from going on page under him.

And of course there areas for him to worry a Norway's reported to be to an anti-Nazi uprising to be.

France certainly won't en any longer than it has It stands to reason a mark, Poland and Belg but be ripe for revolt at favorable opportunity. kans also are only as pr as they're afraid to be

Now, Herr Hitler ce trate on one little spot, ern Holland, and suppre Nazi-ism, unquestiona

But suppose Adolf w uprising break out agai France, Holland, Belgi Denmark and Norway a taneously, plus Brita hands, maybe the B Turkey, too, and with B reliability to reckon with all that keep him prett

Italy's a broken reed t Japan's too far away t in Europe.

Just how solidly Ger is behind the Fuehrer is of a problem here. That ly predominantly so tioned. Nevertheless vague rumors of a bit discontent with him, the land traditionally has crats. There are obs think they might man selves quite formidabl into serious trouble, a chance to speak abo per without being inst TAPO-ed.

Anyway, Washington ic strategists calcula Hitler and Signor M former with his news land and the latter w African and Albania have been a couple of enlightening informan

THE LESSON The teacher put a in a glass of water. swam around and seem it. She took it from the water and put it in a col, and it twisted and died. She asked the pupil demonstration proved who was popping his est, was given permis his version. "If you always drink worms."