

The Mountaineer
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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1942
(ONE DAY NEARER VICTORY)

History Repeating

The record of Haywood County men in the present world-wide conflict, while considered with pride and deep satisfaction, should not surprise those familiar with local history.

In every war in which this country has been engaged Haywood County men have come through with flying colors. Born of an independent heritage they have stood for freedom always, and have never feared to defend their principles.

The county was settled by heroes of the American Revolution. They handed down to their descendants a spirit of courage and loyalty that has been manifested through succeeding generations. Personal liberty they hold dear, and for their country they are willing to pay the supreme sacrifice.

Back in 1812 Haywood County had 145 men in the service in that conflict, with two majors and one lieutenant. The population was not very large at that early date and those 145 must have made quite a vacancy in the county. In the Mexican war a company, while never called into active duty, was organized here.

In that tragic era in our nation when brother drew gun against brother, more than 1,000 Haywood boys wore the uniform of the grey.

In the Spanish-American war Company "H" had the distinction of carrying the first United States flag through the streets of Havana.

In the World War I 863 men from Haywood County joined the service, and in that list were many ranking officers who made history that will ever shine upon its pages with honor and national glory.

Now in this hour of need in our country and in the world our Haywood men are making a record that the nation can again review with pride. Added to the bravery of the men who go is the fine spirit with which their wives and mothers stand on the sidelines and send them away.

Not Needed

A recent magazine carried an interesting article on "People we could do without in this country." While it was personal in its selection, the thought came to us as we read it that there are certain characteristics we often find in people in a community that we wish there might be some way to cure them.

You find persons with these characteristics everywhere, we feel sure, not only here but all over the country. They do not mean to be disloyal to the United States or to their government, but their conversations are so filled with taunting criticism that they sound like Nazi converts.

You see the person who knows, just how this war should be carried on. To hear them expound the subject, you would think it advisable to recall MacArthur from his post and send him by the next plane to take his place.

We admit that there have been some mistakes, and grave ones, made that will cost us life and money in this country, but on the whole America is speeding up on war effort in such a manner that we are all keenly aware that everything possible is going to be drafted for service in some form before peace once again reigns.

We could well do without anyone today who is at cross purposes, either by criticism or lack of cooperation, for lending both spiritual and material aid to winning this war.

Complimentary Commissions

We read during the week that the War Department had disclosed that 18,967 civilians with no previous experience as military officers had received army commissions during the 60 days beginning June 1.

Representative Faddis of Pennsylvania, a member of the Military Affairs Committee, who sponsored the recent legislation requiring the armed service to make periodic reports on civilian commissions, stated that he was "surprised the list isn't bigger."

"They've probably commissioned every movie actor who can stand up by himself," he declared. "It's hard to find anybody below a brigadier general."

We were relieved to learn that out of the large number at least 10,000 were doctors and other members of the medical profession who were commissioned in the medical reserve. A number, we understand, were appointed for administrative duties that did not require military training.

Of these groups we have no disapproval to voice, but a commission that is merely a political plum given to a man who is to be a leader of our armed forces we dare not trust ourselves to write. Too much of this kind of reward to untrained men will not help the morale of the American public and will do still greater harm to the buck private who "has gone through the mill" to learn to be a soldier.

Farm Transportation

L. J. Taber, past master of the National Grange, predicts that during this year a 75 per cent decrease in mileage on rural highways will be noted. Fruits, vegetables and other perishables will not reach markets either on time or in the great abundance as in the past.

Numbers of deliveries which we have taken for granted are going to be stopped. In addition labor will not be able to get to and from the farms as in days gone by, which will be another serious problem.

Farmers are going to be faced with transportation problems that unless some substitute is provided for rubber they cannot adequately meet.

In view of the importance of the production of the farmer in the current situation it gives food for serious consideration. As the figures on the first wartime harvest come in, it is evident that the American farmer has gone over the top in answering the appeal for food.

We hear in our own county that peak crops are ready to be harvested, and a visit to the office of the rationing board will reveal that there are not enough tires to go round. We cannot but feel that a substitute will be offered for rubber.

In Haywood County perhaps we have a right to be more encouraged than other sections, for we have a man who is working hard to perfect a wooden tire that will temporarily take the place of the rubber tire.

Where Skill Outranks Beauty

Officers in the New Women's Naval Reserve will merit a salute of respect from the nation.

The "Waves" will not be chosen because they look well in blue. If they're blonde and beautiful, that's fine, but it is not a requirement. Brains plus training and experience come first. The girls are being chosen for big jobs—men's jobs. They will receive the same pay, and they will have to earn it.

For the first contingent of girls in blue, the Navy will draw upon the highest feminine technical skill, women with a knowledge of aeronautical, electrical, mechanical, or civil engineering.

The Navy wants girls who can hold their own in the fields of meteorology, metallurgy, electronics, architecture and astronomy, licensed radio operators, lexicographers, statisticians, and experts in many branches of research.

At the time of World War One, it would have been difficult to find more than twenty-five women in these highly technical fields. Today they may be found in nearly all of them. The fact that the Navy calls for "Waves" trained in these professions is in itself a tribute. If it succeeds in obtaining the quota, it will mark a significant milestone in the progress of women.—Christian Science Monitor.

Germany has lifted the ban on nude bathing. That's one place where they can say, "I haven't a thing to wear," and really mean it.



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

We have been hearing for some time that Mr. Bridges, veteran lino-type operator on The Mountaineer . . . was going to retire from his work . . . but none of us would take him seriously . . . in fact as we listened to him talk of "quitting" . . . we smiled to ourselves . . . at the very absurdity of such a thing . . . we well recall the first time the editor mentioned it to us . . . for afterward he looked at us hopefully . . . as much as to say "do you really think he will quit?" . . . It is hard to realize that Mr. Bridges has been at his job for 52 years . . . and still has as much pep and spirit . . . as he displays on any work day . . .

But we were all wrong . . . from the editor down . . . he really meant it . . . for on last Thursday Tom Bridges . . . who has seen editors come and go . . . who has seen the paper change hands time after time as well as name . . . who has seen it a paying proposition to its owners . . . who has seen it running at a loss . . . who has stood by it in stormy weather . . . as well as fair . . . signed off for good . . . perhaps one reason none of us believed him was because we just didn't see how the place could run without him . . . he has become an "institution" with The Waynesville Mountaineer . . . But, as he himself expressed it when we talked to him later in the week, after he had officially resigned . . .

"Well, if a fellow is ever going to quit work it's time after 50 years of hard labor to stop and have a rest . . . I think it's a good thing for a person to stop work before he is knocked out, so he can have time to do some of the things he has been wanting to do for a long while and just couldn't get around to . . . now you take next spring . . . I am going to buy myself some fishing licenses . . . and I expect to use them when I get good and ready . . . if it's Monday morning . . . and I want to go . . . and even on a Wednesday . . . which for fifty-two years has been the worst day of the week for me, I can go fishing next spring."

"Of course these first few months I guess I'll be pretty busy . . . you see she (pointing to his wife) . . . has got a lot of things she has been saving up for me to do . . . and I have been promising to do so long . . . that I'm not going to have any excuse any more . . . I'll just have to make good my promises . . . but you just wait 'til I get caught up on her work . . . and then I'm going to do just as I please . . ." which sounds very alluring to the rest of us still going strong in the routine of our work . . .

We are going to miss Mr. Bridges from The Mountaineer office . . . he has been our encyclopedia of local history, and our authority of initials and names . . . everybody connected with The Mountaineer has taken advantage of his memory . . . which is nine times out of ten correct . . . just let something come up locally that no one is quite certain about . . . some happening a few years back . . . and he is sure to remember not only the story but all the details . . . and for the initials of people . . . he's a wizard . . . maybe his keeping up that mailing list of The Mountaineer for fifty odd years developed this talent . . . We bet there is no person in the community, outside of the tax collector and the compiler of the telephone directory who could tell you more accurately everybody's initials in town . . . than Tom Bridges . . .

To the question . . . what do you recall as the hardest work you ever had to do for The Mountaineer . . . his answer was . . . "Trying

to teach myself how to operate a lino-type machine . . . with no one at hand who knew even as much as I did about the thing . . . now you might not think that was much of a job . . . but you just try it . . . if you don't agree with me" . . . Thirty-four years ago . . . he tackled this proposition . . . the editor . . . at that time G. C. Briggs had bought a lino-type machine and hired an operator . . . but he and the operator fell out . . . so Mr. Bridges had to fall in and see what he could do . . . eventually the machine came to be known as "Old Maude" . . . and was so called until a year ago when a new one took "her" place . . . and then after he recalled the story his eyes had a far away look . . . as he added . . . "but that new one . . . here last week was working mighty good . . . and we wondered if in his retirement his fingers from sheer force of habit . . . wouldn't have an urge to strike those letters once again on a lino-type machine . . . we can't help but feel that some day when things go all hay-wire in the shop . . . and we are short of hands . . . he'll get wind of it . . . and drop around . . . and take his old chair in front of his machine . . . and "start her up" . . .

Tom Bridges, native born mountaineer, has the independence characteristic of our people . . . as the expression goes . . . "he is beholden to no man" . . . he has met life's honest obligations honestly . . . he has expected no more of others than he was willing to do himself . . . and his loyalty to those for whom he has worked . . . would put a labor union agitator to shame . . . when he signed off he took our best wishes with him . . . for good luck . . . the rest of the way . . . we hope he will have a fine time doing as he pleases . . . and he has earned his rest . . . by services well done.

Miller Family Will Hold Reunion on Sept. 6th

The annual reunion of the Miller family will be held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller on Spring Creek on Sunday, September 6th. All the members of the family and friends are invited to attend.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. William Munday Fowler, of Raleigh, announce the birth of a son, William Munday Fowler, Jr., at Rex Hospital on August 28th. Mrs. Fowler is the former Miss Catherine Martin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Martin, of Waynesville.

TEN YEARS AGO

1932
Judge has unique record as summer visitor for he is spending

SEVEN YEARS AGO

1937
Labor Day program is ready, with full day of celebrating. Haywood County Fair Association is dissolved, and directors decide to suspend organization. General H. B. Ferguson describes the work of the Mississippi river control.

FIVE YEARS AGO

1937
Local stores are urged to close for Labor Day program. WPA grants in state amount to over one million. Thirty-eight boys report for football practice this year and Carl Ratcliff will be assistant coach to C. E. Weatherly.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

1917
The erection of the high and the strict rules for entering the gate, gives the whole pair of bigness, but not so what the entire community like to see it expand many times its present sizes. Plans the Tannery add much to a munity. Such plants make a munity a better place to live.

WHAT MADE NEWS YEARS AGO

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THE OLD HOME TOWN



Rambling Around

By W. CURTIS RUSS
Bits of this, that and the other picked up here, there and yonder.

Voice OF THE People

In view of the urgent need for war industry workers do you think that voluntary enlistment in the service should be stopped and from now on all recruiting be handled by the selective system?

Mrs. W. L. Balentine—"No, I think those who wish to volunteer should continue to have the privilege."
Robert Boone—"In some ways it might be best, but I believe that a volunteer makes the better soldier."

W. Clarke Medford—"I think the situation is such that anybody should be allowed to volunteer if they wish."
Oder F. Burnette—"While we could not do without the selective system, I think that men should be allowed to volunteer."

Jimmy Neal—"I don't think the privilege of volunteering for service should ever be stopped in this democratic country."
W. T. Crawford—"Everybody should have the privilege of volunteering if they wish to do so."

R. M. Fie—"If a person wants to volunteer I think he should be allowed to do so. In fact I think it would be better if the whole army could be made up of volunteers for they make the best fighters."
Paul Martin—"No, I think it should be left open to every man to do as he pleases. If he prefers to volunteer before he is drafted he should have that privilege."

Linwood Grahl—"No, in my opinion the voluntary army is much better than the drafted army. They have a better fighting spirit. One was forced to go and the other went of his own accord. The volunteer makes the better soldier."
T. G. Massie—"I think that Americans should always be allowed to volunteer. I know from experience that you feel different when you volunteer."

Along with the beautiful grass and flowers, the men enjoy showers and new lockers have been installed. The plan of this new building resembles Y at a large college. Plenty hot and cold water, plenty of light, and steel lockers each man.

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There is something about brisk weather that makes one to be alive . . . and to be all America. One of the best to prove it by INVESTING war bonds and stamps. Try

his 40th summer here. Courthouse flood lights being burned each night. Final plans for Labor Day, Waynesville and county join Canton at Lake Junaluska. Waynesville township are ready to open on Monday morning at 8:30. Many visitors are planned to remain in town to attend the show. Chairman E. B. Jefferson that Soco Gap road will be paved this fall. Joseph Daniels will speak at educational conference today night. Ellis Wells, of Pigeon, will leg while getting out acid.

Employment, air, and ships, prom melancholy. uel Johnson. ADMIRAL ATOR'S NO. Having notified as administrator of the estate of Mrs. L. L. H. Liner, deceased, wife of Dr. L. L. H. Liner, late of Haywood County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to exhibit them to the undersigned at Waynesville, N. C., on or before the 2nd of September, 1942. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement. This September 2nd, 1942. DR. W. H. LINDSEY, Administrator. No. 1230 Sept. 3-10-17-24