

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1943 (One Day Nearer Victory)

Kept In Haywood

We noted with pleasure that more than half of the registered Herefords offered at auction at the annual sale sponsored by the Haywood Hereford Breeders' Association were bought by Haywood farmers and will be kept in this area.

Such purchases give assurance that there will be better cattle in Haywood County next year and that interest in improving the stock of the county continues despite present conditions.

'Ain't It Hell'

The following editorial from the Raleigh News and Observer should make all of us stop and think before we ever again guilty of complaining about our lot as civilians in the present conflict:

"The fighting men in the malarial jungles in the Pacific, facing the shot and shell of Nazis in Italy, meeting bitter foes in the battles of the sky and facing death from U-boats cannot understand the complaints some people at home make about rationing and the like. A war correspondent reports this comment by a giant fighting man overseas, talking about some complaining home folks:

"Ain't it hell! They can't get T-bone steaks! The cops bother 'em about gas for vacation and football trips. They're plum out of chewing gum! Liquor's short! John L. says some of his miners get only six bucks a day while shipbuilders get ten or fifteen! Ain't it hell?"

A Wise Plan

Since we have been so firm in our opinion about taking eighteen-year-old boys in the service, we were much gratified during the week to see that President Roosevelt has looked ahead and wants the country to give these boys, whose education was cut short, another chance.

President Roosevelt would like for the qualified veterans of this war to have additional educational advantages after peace, up to three years at the expense of the government. In his report to Congress he said that the nation was "morally obligated to provide training to equip service personnel for gainful pursuits in peace time and also that the nation would need trained men and women.

"We must replenish our supply of persons qualified to discharge the heavy responsibilities of the post war world," he said, "we have taught our youth how to wage war, we must also teach them how to live useful and happy lives in freedom, justice and decency."

We all know that when the war is over and the service men and women are discharged, the demand for jobs will be a terrific problem facing the government, for in a sense it will be the responsibility of the government, that took them from their peace time jobs and put them in the armed forces.

We also know that many of the younger men led before they had completed school, or had any training for their future life's work. We may have to help bear the burden of taxation to pay for this program, but it seems only fair to the teen-agers who are now fighting that we may keep forever the American ideals of government and living, to give them training.

A Weak Spot

We hear a great deal about paper shortages. We know from experience that there is need to conserve paper, but from the amount of propoganda that could be rightfully termed non-essential that comes into this office, one might be inclined to think that the public had been asked to make use of paper.

Now far be it from us to criticize our government at this critical time, but we have a suggestion to make to Uncle Sam. He might start house cleaning at home. Everyone knows that there is great need for "paper work" at a time like this, but also that much that is put out in propoganda is unnecessary.

Sometimes we salvage some of the propoganda sheets for "copy paper", but it does not even do very well for that, as it often makes it hard, with type showing through, on the eyes of the linotype operator as he sets up our copy.

But government bulletins flow through the land "like milk and honey in a land of plenty", with, though we regret to say it, many of them unread, and missing the point of the cost and effort of sending.

Planning For the Future

A short time ago suggestions were made by a prominent citizen of Waynesville and other sections regarding a program for the entertainment of visitors to be carried out by the town officials.

Regardless of how intent we are on winning this war, and how we stand in our unity of effort in this direction, we must look ahead. The suggestions that one form of entertainment be taken care of annually, seemed to us a fine idea. It would not work a hardship on the finances of the town to do a little each year on this vital need, if Waynesville is to compete with other communities as a resort.

As we recall a small park in town for the throwing of horse shoes and other sports, municipal swimming pool, and tennis courts, were among amusement features of the proposed program. If this could be managed by the city fathers, with one feature built each year, by the end of the generally accepted duration, we would be ready to entertain our visitors in the manner that other towns are now doing.

If these forms of entertainment were needed before the war, they will be absolute necessities when peace comes, and the traveling public is seeking relaxation and amusement.

Correct War Perspective

In case you did not see it, we reprint here the following editorial from the Christian Science Monitor. It gives a wholesome perspective to the war, and a touch of reality that often we civilians at home are apt to fail to get:

It is to be hoped that President Roosevelt's latest order empowering the OWI to present a more realistic picture of the war will have the support of the Army and Navy.

Facilities for gathering the news and distributing it were never better, yet the impression grows that Americans are getting a distorted view. It looks too easy.

Some American soldiers in Australia pointed this out recently in an issue of their newspaper when they complained of the G. I. who appears in the ads, fresh from the barber shop and the tailor's iron. Even beside a palm tree in Guadalcanal, his shoes are shined and he looks bronzed and husky. He dines only with Powers models, and his jeeps and planes have knee action, hydro-matic gear shifts and air conditioning.

The war, insist the boys, is not quite what the strategists in the fox holes of the advertising agencies make it seem.

Nor is the war so one-sided as the picture released by the Army and Navy would indicate. American men and American ships and material get blasted, too.

Among those perturbed by this incomplete picture of the war, and the tendency it has to make people on the home front feel that Americans never get hurt, or that it is "all over but the shouting," is Elmer Davis, chief of the Office of War Information. Apparently, he has gotten this viewpoint over to the President. The results will be observed with much interest.

OPA has allowed the wholesale ceiling price of sausage to go up! And now it's the little pig who jumps over the moon.

Bonds alone wont buy Victory, but they'll give her wings.

Being able to understand anyone is nothing for a college student to boast about.



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

It is surprising how many things we think we know, but when we get ready to make use of them...

The writer stated that "service men are particularly susceptible to these overcharging tactics as the most part they are in strange surroundings... young in the average, and somewhat diffident about complaining or making trouble..."

We tried another... no, she was sorry, she couldn't for the life of her remember, but she felt sure her family would... we waited... but no, they knew, but had just forgotten for the minute...

Then the next morning... the mother of one of the Music Club members called and told us that the thing had worried her daughter so much, because she knew that she knew... that her subconscious mind must have worked it out during the night...

There has been something on our minds for a long time... it has bothered us... we have heard a lot about what prices men in the smallest items... and it seems service are having to pay for even the officers really "get it in the neck"...

blot on our famous brand of Southern hospitality.

While on the subject of men in service... and they get a big slice of our thoughts these days... we want something cleared up for us... Why should the men accepted for service in the army have three weeks, when the navy gives a fellow only one week to get his business in ship shape for the duration...

Coming to work Monday morning... we found windows covered with soap drawings in many weird designs... all store owners outside working to get the windows back to their glistening condition... C. J. Reece, commenting... "They tell me that soap is scarce, but I don't believe it," he sighed as he pushed the mop up and down over the expansion glass of his modern store.



Inside WASHINGTON

Foresee as Many as Three "Second" Fronts by Summer Allied Attack in Balkans Expected in Near Future

WASHINGTON—The full fury of Anglo-American strength, now gathering momentum in North Africa, the East and England, will fall on Hitler's "Fortress Europe" next summer. The Allied aim is to crush the German armies by the winter of 1944.

Best opinion in Washington is that optimists who expect the Germans to crumble this winter are pre-doomed to disappointment. A real second front that will satisfy Soviet Russian demands means a landing in full strength in Western Europe...

Full Scale—will come next spring. Where and when is known only to President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and the combined chiefs of staff committee. Next Spring—Already the United States and England have gathered together in their African and United Kingdom bases...

MOSCOW MISSION—Hull, Eden and Molotov will talk post-war arrangements between the United States, Great Britain and Soviet Russia. The war pow-wow will await the first meeting between Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin.

The Russians would like the big meeting to be held in Moscow, are holding out for it. Do not expect the conference to be held in Moscow, however. It will be somewhere near Russia, but not in Russia itself. There's a tricky bit of protocol at the bottom...

It is o. k. for Churchill to go to Moscow to confer with Stalin, for President Roosevelt to go there for a joint conference with Stalin and Churchill would be a sort of "hat in the hand" gesture. Therefore, look for the "Big Three" meeting to be held elsewhere.

PRESIDENTIAL HOBBY—Like King George of Britain, F. D. R.'s first love is the sea and anything that sails on it.

Before the war is ended, the president will have added to his faring collection an entire fleet of fighting ships in miniature, from battleships down to the smallest of the swift, deadly assault boats.

Latest addition is an array of perfect scale models of tank, aircraft, personnel carriers and PT boats presented by Stephen Andrew Higgins.

DOUBLE DRAFT CALL—For the first time in World War local draft boards will get a double call for selectees next month. Local boards first will be asked to call all men possible from non-parent category.

Then, later in the month, boards will be told to begin drafting Pearl Harbor fathers on a basis of the number of such men in the areas. October father call should get about 85,000 fathers, with increases in November and December to take 446,500 by Jan. 1.

THE HOPKINSES STAY ON—Everything was set a few weeks ago for the Harry Hopkinses to move out of the White House. Word was out at the White House that the man closest to President Roosevelt was at long last going to move from 1800 Pennsylvania avenue to a charming, old colonial Hopkins house in fashionable Georgetown.

But little Diana Hopkins is still playing on the White House lawn with the president's Scottie. Fala, the White House Georgetown house had been selected by Mrs. Hopkins, the former Louise Macy of New York. It was being renovated and furnished for the presidential adviser and his small family.

Then something happened. The work of redecorating was halted. The doors of the house were locked and plans for moving stopped. Owners of the Georgetown home were non-committal. Neither Mr. or Mrs. Hopkins would talk. But a White House official admitted finally that the Hopkinses were still at the White House and probably would remain indefinitely.

It looks like the reported domestic rift between the Hopkinses and Mrs. Roosevelt never openly confirmed—has been patched up.

Voice OF THE People

What do you think was the real reason for Stalin's refusal to participate in the Churchill-Roosevelt Conference?

W. R. Francis—"Russia is on peace terms with Japan, and if the country should hold a conference with the Allies, they would offend Japan. Japan would have at once been against Russia. I think that is the real reason, and another, Stalin has been very busy with Germany. When the time is ripe, I feel that the whole Russian front will be opened to the Allies and the Russians will be one hundred per cent for us."

T. J. Cathey—"He was not ready."

E. L. Withers—"I think his whole effort and time was being devoted to fighting the Germans, but he was not unfriendly to the United States."

G. C. Platt—"The conference being held to discuss the present situation and Stalin was interested, and he already had his hands full."

Mrs. M. G. Stamey—"Russia is not at war with Japan, and attendance would have been understood."

Dr. C. N. Sisk—"Stalin did not want to go and I don't blame him because of the attitude of the United States and Great Britain had taken toward Russia in early part of the war."

Wayne Franklin—"I think he was just wanting to wait and see how things turned out."

Jack Felmet—"Stalin did not have any reason, more than likely, his country was not at war with Japan."

Miss Francis Robeson—"I think that Stalin was needed in Berlin at that time, and since his country had not declared war against Japan, it was best for him to remain at home."

T. L. Green—"Well, I have been able to quite understand. I have wondered whether he was too busy, or whether he didn't think the time was ripe, or whether he was just being over-tentious."

MARRIAGES: Locke Holland, of Salisbury; Elizabeth Francis, of Waynesville. Paul Hogien to Connie Salsbery, both of Clyde. Can't Afford It: A North Carolina radio board reports that one of the mountain farmers living here has just about found a limit to patriotism. "I'm trying to do my bit, like a farmer," said the farmer, who swore that he and his family would abide by sugar rationing regulations, "but I'm durned can afford to keep on buying that sugar."