

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1944 (One Day Nearer Victory)

We Will Have To Grow

We see where the Public Buildings Administration has brought to Congress plans to put airports on the roofs or land adjacent to all new post office buildings in cities of more than 25,000 population.

Praise With Reservations

Col. William S. Pritchard, of Fort Bragg, in charge of internal security in North Carolina, who inspected the local unit of the State Guard, which is headquarters and service company for the Second North Carolina Regiment, was high in his praise of the fine showing the company made on Friday night—but the guard which should be fifty men strong, now has only 23 members.

"You carry now a rifle instead of a shot gun, and soon you will have a bayonet and other equipment to go with it. This is being supplied by the government. If they did not think it was necessary for a safety measure they would not supply you with this equipment," said the Colonel.

The local State Guard unit, as those over the State has served as a training center for the younger men going into the service. This in a measure explains why the ranks are so thinned at present, but it does not explain why the men between 30 and 50, many of whom will not be called for active duty in the army, are failing to volunteer in the State Guard.

For the tired business man the training is said to serve as a tonic, aside from the fact that in hard cold facts, it is his patriotic duty. We hope that by next week we can write on the stirring response received by the appeal to bring the local company which has had such a high rating in the past, to its required number.

Among Post War Plans

Realizing the splendid work done by the district health department along the lines of checking syphilis in this area during the past few years, it is gratifying to learn that the Army-Public Health Service plan includes a drastic check.

Every soldier will be given a Wassermann test at the time of his demobilization, according to Surgeon General Thomas Parren. If he has syphilis he will be treated by the Army. After discharge, treatment will be continued if necessary. The work will be done at rapid treatment centers of which there are now forty-seven.

Morale Booster

We have often commented that we did not envy the members of a draft board. All human beings may be cut in the same pattern, yet each life holds different combinations of responsibility, and we would hate to sit in judgment on some of the cases that come up.

We see that the Selective Service headquarters in New York have a morale booster hanging on their walls for distracted officials to gaze upon when they feel the urge to read a simple regulation. It is the mobilization order issued by the Government of Ethiopia back in 1935 and leaves no doubt about how to handle cases.

The order reads as follows: "When this order is received, all men and boys able to carry a spear will go to Addis Ababa. Every married man will bring his wife to cook and wash for him. Every unmarried man will bring any woman he can find to cook and wash for him. Women with babies, the blind and those too aged or infirm to carry a spear are excused. Anyone found at home after receiving this order will be hanged."

High Cost of Living

We hear on all sides complaints about the high cost of living, which seems to be still raising. The following editorial from the New York Times giving facts about what is happening in England should serve as a lesson to America:

For three years the British have stabilized their cost-of-living index at a level between 28 and 30 per cent above that in the pre-war period. This achievement was made possible by the combination of a heavy tax program, compulsory and voluntary savings, effective price fixing, extensive rationing of food products, complete control over supplies and comprehensive subsidy payments.

Many persons have cited the British experience as support for the adoption of a comprehensive subsidy program in this country. In many cases it has been assumed that subsidies could be used to prevent any general price rise.

Now this myth concerning subsidies is about to be punctured. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has just announced that despite the payment of subsidies it will be necessary to permit the cost-of-living index to rise from the 1943 level of 28 per cent above the pre-war level to a new level 30 to 35 per cent above the pre-war period.

This revision in policy has been made necessary because wages have continued to increase. In other words, the pressure upon prices has become so great that they can no longer be rigidly stabilized despite the large-scale use of subsidies.

A major lesson may be drawn from this latest British development. There are limits beyond which subsidies cannot be used to stabilize prices. Those persons who have become convinced of the virtues of unlimited subsidies and the desirability of further general wage increases would do well to ponder this latest development in Great Britain's battle to hold the line.

There's a place for the knocker but it's on the outside.

If a price level is ever established it will be on a plateau.

A person is left handed because his right hand is on the wrong side.



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

We hope that Mother's Day was as perfect from the standpoint of weather and growing things in other parts of the country as it was in this area. We liked to think of the beauty of the day as a special gift this year from Mother Nature and the Weather Man to mothers on Their Day, when they were needing something extra with their sons away.

We like assignments that take us to a school. Children have always interested us. We like all age groups, for each has their own points of charms. We went to the high school last Thursday to interview ten boys and ten girls in the current graduating class.

We were pleased with the honesty of the girls. Now back in our "green and salad days," we doubt if they were as honest on the subject of matrimony. We loved the graduates of 1944 for their matter of fact way of speaking of a home of their own and getting married.

They all, boys and girls, seemed so young and their spirits so gay, yet coming to the surface was a surprising maturity. We felt that much of this was due to the fact that they are having to grow up fast to meet new conditions.

A story going the rounds... If you have read it, skip it... During a history making Roosevelt-Churchill-Stalin conference, Roosevelt is reported to have com-

mented one morning: "I had a dream last night. I dreamed that the war was over and that I was elected president of the League of Nations."

We have heard a number of mothers discussing why some boys in the service get home so much more often than their own. They have asked us if we knew why there should be such partiality. Our answer is usually that we are not in on such military secrets.

Why is a serviceman allowed a fifteen-day furlough a year but three quarters of them don't get it? ... and her answer: "Soldiers may receive thirty days furlough time a year, but no more than fifteen days at any one period. Granting of a furlough is a privilege granted the soldier which is granted provided that the training schedule of the unit and the individual state of training permits it."

Furloughs are granted upon the decision of the commanding officer who knows whether a furlough will disrupt training of either the unit or the individual. The War Department does not believe that the statement that three quarters of the men do not get their furlough is correct.

TRANSACTIONS IN Real Estate

Fines Creek Township R. H. Ferguson, et ux to J. V. Ferguson. Z. V. Ferguson to Joe Kirkpatrick, et ux.

Waynesville Township Howard Moore, et ux to J. V. Ruff, et ux. H. L. Limer, Sr., et ux to L. E. Sims.

Clarice (motoring)—I said you could kiss me, but I did not say you could hug me. Henry—Oh, that's all right; I just threw in the clutch.

Inside WASHINGTON

Breakup of Solid South Seen Remote Possibility | Anti-Poll Tax Bill May Hold Up Legislation

WASHINGTON—The most optimistic Republican political observers are predicting intermittent chinks, then wide breaks in the presidential candidate even greater than they hope for.

They are pointing down the corridors of time to the election of 1928, when Al Smith lost North Carolina and other southern states in the GOP sweep that sent Herbert Hoover into the White House.

Other political observers, however, agree that Texas recognition of the supreme court decision as a purely legal move and that it will have little effect on the state political situation. They assert that Texas is safely in the Roosevelt column if the president chooses to make a fourth term bid.

North Carolina, despite dissatisfaction over the New Deal, is likely to remain Democratic, barring unforeseen events. And the same is true of Virginia and the other Piedmont and south central states. Borderline states, particularly Kentucky and possibly Tennessee, are doubtful.

THE CHANGE IN LOCAL POSTAL RATES from two to three cents an ounce had a familiar ring. In 1932, both the local and non-local rate went up to three cents for letters, but a year later local rates were changed back to two cents.

During World War I, the non-local rate was upped from two to three cents, but changed back in 1919. And away long ago in 1878, cost three cents per half ounce for out-of-town letters and two cents per half ounce for local mail. Not until 1885 did Uncle Sam raise the mail for two cents an ounce.

THE HALLS OF CONGRESS are reverberating these days with charges that a "deal" is on the fire to hold up the vital Price Control Act, which expires June 30, in return for special treatment on the pending anti-poll tax bill in the Senate.

Hearings are now being held in the Senate and House on the proposed extension of the OPA for one year after June 30. Most observers agree that neither chamber will receive a bill until the latter part of May.

With southern Senate forces set for an all-out filibuster on House-passed anti-poll tax bill, sponsored by Representative Marcantonio (A. L.) of New York, a huge log-jam is developing the upper chamber's legislative calendar.

Southern anti-poll tax leaders, however, contend that they are willing to yield to any legislation which is "vital to the welfare of the nation" provided that when the legislation is disposed of they will regain the floor.

The Voice Of The People

What is your main ambition in life? (Ed Note—The following answers were given by girls of the graduating class of the Waynesville Township high school.)

Mildred Carswell—"I want to join the Woman's Ferry Command. Then when the war is over, to become a trained nurse and that my life's work, but I also want some day to get married."

Margaret Palmer—"I want a private secretary to a prominent business man and I hope I am not going to be an old maid."

Louise Rollins—"I want to be a private secretary. I would do that awhile and maybe try something else. Of course after the war is over I would like to get married."

Mildred Morrow—"I want to run a business. I would like to see I am the only girl in the class and my mother loves children before that I am going to get into civil service."

Oleta Bryson—"I want to be a cadet nurse until after the war. Well of course every girl wants to get married someday."

Rosemary Herman—"I like being and I would like to be a scientific worker. It does not matter so much so I can help people."

A book agent at a book store, middle-aged woman. Book Agent—"Can I speak to you?"

Woman—"You are looking for a book?"

Book Agent—"I thought you might be the youngest daughter."

Woman—"Oh, well, come on. He sold her a book."

Cross-Examining Lawyer—"Did you or did you not, date in question or at any time, say to the defendant any one else that the state imputed to you and denied to plaintiff was a matter of sequence or otherwise? Answer yes or no!"

Witness—"Yes or no, what?"

Caller—"Is Elsie your sister?"

Junior—"Yes, sir." Caller—"And who comes her?" Junior—"You and two others."

