

# The Mountaineer

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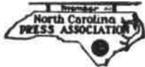
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THURSDAY, MAY 25, 1944  
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

## C. Of C. Banquet

From all accounts that we hear the annual banquet of the Chamber of Commerce this year will have a program of exceptional interest. While the Chamber of Commerce cannot branch out for the duration as much as in the past, there is much ground work being laid now for future activities.

The increase in business in this area gives promise of a larger Chamber of Commerce when the war is over that will meet our growing needs. We are fortunate in this section that our growth for the duration has not been due to a high pressure of war effort, which will drop when peace comes, but rather an accelerated program that will continue with peacetime productions taking the place of war products.

To all civic minded citizens, we feel sure that the program tonight will be of keen interest, and if you can secure a ticket at this late hour we advise you to do so.

## Too Many Absentees

The open house held by the Haywood County Hospital on National Hospital Day was an occasion that should have been enjoyed by more citizens of this community and county than those who attended. The institution was opened to the public so they could see for themselves how this hospital which is theirs by right and privilege from their taxes is being operated.

They would have come away deeply impressed with its organization and the attitude of its personnel. They would have been impressed with the buildings and how clean and immaculate they are being kept. They would have felt pride in the grounds and in the general atmosphere of high standard of things. They would have felt that they were getting their money's worth from their taxes.

We all know what the hospital has meant to our Haywood county folks during the years it has served us. We know that hundreds of lives have been saved and comfort and relief given to thousands who have been treated there. In fact most of us simply take it as a manner of course now.

We built it and we support it as property owners, but the majority of us seem to have forgotten that we must still support it with our interest, which should be expressed and shown.

It took years of education on the part of the medical profession of our state and the doctors of our own county led in the state fight in the Legislature for county hospitalization by taxation of the people. It was a long hard pull before the institution became a reality of cement and brick, that eventually became a haven to the sick and suffering.

It took only a few minutes to make a tour of the building and grounds on the occasion of open house. The hours could be fitted into even a busy person's routine, but the public did not respond as they should have to the invitation. Yet we do not feel that it was lack of interest that kept the citizens away, but merely a thoughtless omission of their civic responsibility, and appreciation of services.

We hope that the personnel holds open house again next year and gives the Haywood county folks an opportunity to redeem themselves for their rudeness in not accepting the 1944 invitation in greater numbers.

A person wrapped up in himself makes an unattractive package.

## The Privilege Of Voting

With so many men out of this country, it behooves every American citizen, who is eligible to cast his vote in the coming primary and elections. We have often heard men rant about the country going to the dogs, and when asked what they did about it, they stare with a blank expression. Often you will find that they did not even go to the polls and use their privilege of citizenship.

One man's vote in the final check up is just as good as the other fellow's. When the government instituted the present system of balloting for officials, it was expected that the citizens would use the right.

## Congratulations

Charles E. Ray, Jr., who has served as chairman of the War Finance Committee of Haywood County for the past eighteen months has resigned due to the pressure of business. Mr. Ray deserves the commendation of the people of Haywood County for the very fine job he did of this important war emergency feature.

In the first place Mr. Ray organized the entire county with key people in each community, citizens that he knew would not fail in their appointed duties. He built up a personnel of workers that he has inspired to greater effort as the occasions have demanded. He turns over to his successor a record of high standard to match.

James E. Massie has been appointed permanent chairman to take Mr. Ray's place, and we feel that the challenge of Mr. Ray's fine work will be met by Mr. Massie. Sam Robinson, Canton attorney, who has so ably assisted Mr. Ray as vice-chairman, will continue in that capacity working with Mr. Massie.

The promotion of the sale of war bonds is one of the major responsibilities of the home front and we are proud of the manner in which our folks have answered the call. We feel that much of this is due to Mr. Ray's enthusiastic leadership.

## Recreational Program

Those appointed to organize and launch a recreational program are to be congratulated on the speed with which the project has been presented to the people and the short time for its realization in our community life.

The idea starting with a handful of women at a church meeting has grown to a wide and comprehensive program. Dr. Myers in his talk here on Tuesday of last week outlined the meaning of a recreational program in a community. It was more or less a revelation to most of his audience.

It may be recalled that this paper took occasion when the idea was first presented to take the stand that if it was a fly-by-night outburst of wishful thinking for community betterment, it was not especially interested. With the vision of service that is being launched on June 1st, we feel safe in saying that the foundation for the recreational program is solid and far reaching. If carried out on the ideas which are now being advocated, the program will bring new life and fine wholesome relaxation to our community.

The program as now designed will bring strong combat influences to battle the idleness that brings a child to be classed as a delinquent, and should bring fresh interest to the adults of our community, that will also create a fine spirit of cooperation.

## A Creed For America's Salvation

This is not original with this newspaper, but it is too good and too appropriate for these days to be kept from as wide a circulation as it can be given to the American people through the medium of all the newspapers of the nation:

You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot help small men by tearing down big men.

You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.

You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer.

You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income.

You cannot establish sound security on borrowed money.

You cannot build character and courage by taking away a man's initiative and independence.

You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.



## HERE and THERE

By  
 HILDA WAY GWYN

District Number One, of the North Carolina Federation of Clubs is very proud of winning the Albert Berry Silver Cup in the 1944 narrative poetry contest sponsored by the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs—and Waynesville Woman's Club is very proud to have the winner a member of their club.

The poem was written by Mrs. W. T. Crawford, widow of the late Congressman W. T. Crawford, who served four terms in Congress, representing this district.

The desk, which was the inspiration of the poem, is owned by Mrs. Charles R. Thomas, whose home here is filled with lovely things prized by many generations. Mrs. Thomas came here to reside several years ago from New Bern. She is a native of Hillsboro, and is the granddaughter of Chief Justice Thomas Ruffin and the daughter of his son, Judge Thomas Ruffin, Jr., two of North Carolina's most distinguished jurists. The desk, of beautiful mellow mahogany, has long been one of our favorite pieces of furniture among the many interesting things in the home of Mrs. Thomas.

Incidentally, the husbands of Mrs. Thomas and Mrs. Crawford served in Congress together. Mrs. Thomas likes to recall the days when Taft was President, and the time Mrs. Crawford brought all her seven children to visit a session of Congress, and what a stir of interest there was in such a large grouped family.

The silver cup has been awarded the winners of the contest since 1927 and is kept for one year by the successful contestant, with the name of the winner engraved on the cup. Among those who have been awarded the cup are the following: Eddie W. Wilson, 1927; Norma Janet Winsberg, 1928; Martha Fairley Murray, 1931; Travis Puke Jordan, 1929-1930; Zoe Kincaid Broeyman, 1934; Lola Elizabeth Stone, 1933; Zoe Kincaid Brockman, 1934; Augusta Wray, 1935; Hattie Bell Allen, 1936; Pearl Council Hiatt, 1937-1938; Marjorie Craig, 1939; Lucy Portas Thompson, 1940; Augusta Wray, 1941;—there seemed to have been no winners in 1942 and 1943—but now on the cup will be engraved Inez Coman Crawford, 1944.

### THE ANTIQUE DESK

The fine old desk at the end of the hall  
 Stands stately and grim with its back to the wall,  
 And holds its dark secrets under lock and key  
 Hiding deep mysteries from you and from me  
 These two hundred years and maybe lots more  
 It has guarded in silence its secret store.

I arose from my chair near the glowing fire  
 (My inquisitiveness mounting higher and higher)  
 "About this old desk that you now have here  
 I have questions to ask," (I was visiting there.)  
 "How enchanting it is and I know full well  
 That an ancient desk must have volumes to tell  
 Of how ink once flowed through a quill for a pen  
 About Times' many changes—between now—and then,  
 Of wills, deeds, injunctions and subpoenas galore  
 Of proposals of marriage and love notes by the score."

My friend lowered her voice as if to warn  
 And heavily laying her hand on

my arm,  
 Replied in low tones very close to my ear,  
 Half looking around so no one could hear,  
 "My great grandfather, a judge in his time,  
 First started this desk down the family line.  
 I have no idea of its age, my dear,  
 But its been in the family for many a year  
 Then some years ago as you doubtless see  
 It was shipped to this town and belongs to me."

"How thrilling this is, do tell me some more,"  
 I said, surveying it from its top to the floor,  
 "And someday I want to (if you will let me do it)  
 To see the inside and go all through it."

Then clutching my arm, again drawing near  
 She really whispered and no one could hear,  
 "The biggest secret there is about it,  
 (I have heard it so often I cannot doubt it)  
 Is its secret drawer, it is hidden in there  
 And no one can find it anywhere."

"But in that secret place hides a breath of despair  
 Of the jilted lover and the lock of her hair,  
 Her broken promise to forever be his  
 Changed a beautiful romance from that day to this.  
 Both their loves lay dead, and as it would seem  
 Left only bitter fragments of a shattered dream."

I confess my curiosity then knew no bounds  
 And some rainy night I shall go on my rounds  
 With a flashlight and tools in a dim quiet hour  
 I'll be the first one to find that "secret drawer."  
 I'll find stocks and bonds and jewels and gold,  
 And everything else that my fancy can hold.

I'll keep a tryst with the Past whatever befall  
 That mysterious old desk at the end of the hall.

Maiden Lady (to tramp)—Why should a great big fellow like you have to go around begging?  
 Tramp (bowing graciously)—My dear Madam, I dislike to do it, of course, but it is the only way a man can talk to a beautiful lady without an introduction.

## THE OLD HOME TOWN



# Inside WASHINGTON

Foresee Sudden Increase In Pacific War's Tempo | Chiefs Have Hoped Low Invasion Costs

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—Look for a sudden and startling increase in tempo of the Pacific war—with the Japanese on the receiving end of the extent that smashing simultaneous blows can be struck in the Central Pacific, the Philippines, and even in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian ocean.

In recent speeches by the Navy's top admirals—those in charge of naval strategy—one line has reappeared many times. It was strike "sooner than you think."

Smash at The Allied naval blow against Sabang, Sumatra from a newly-constituted naval force based in the Philippines is but a forerunner of many such blows to be throughout the Dutch East Indies, and in the waters of Singapore.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur's audacious landings on the New Guinea coast is another straw in the wind. And air and sea actions in the Central Pacific, under Admiral Chester Nimitz's command, foreshadow long strides that may be taken in that toward the Philippines and China.

It all shapes up to indicate that one of F. D. R.'s less quoted dictions—that Germany and Japan would be hit simultaneously—may yet eventuate.

INVASION-MINDED WASHINGTON, like the rest of the country, has been stricken by the cross-channel jitters, and the delay on all fronts.

Congress, which has its collective mind on the June and political conventions, is curiously slow in making decisions on important matters. Price control, lend-lease and the potentialist anti-poll tax bill are still marking time.

Government workers in vital agencies are more concerned about the actual date of the invasion and pools flourish while the every-day work proceeds apace.

Army-Navy officials are becoming more sanguine about the chances of storming Hitler's European fortress with low casualties.

THE INTERNAL REVENUE BUREAU, which has always borne the brunt of squawks about income taxes, really originated the come tax simplification plan which the House ways and means committee has approved.

The IRB would welcome simplification provisions and hopes Congress approves them. It would mean a lot less work for the bureau. In fact, work volume would be so reduced that the bureau is ready to shoulder the job of computing the income tax of some million persons—a task the bill would impose on the tax-collecting agency.

THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY CONFERENCE President Roosevelt is expected to call probably will not be held before June, at the earliest.

And, location of the meeting in all likelihood will not be Washington—not enough hotel facilities. The location probably will be some large resort hotel within about 200 or 250 miles of the capital.

One thing has been made clear by treasury officials—the will be welcome.

BECAUSE OF LEATHER AND MANPOWER SHORTAGE fewer shoes will be made this year, the total output reaching 400 to 410 million pairs compared to the 460-odd million pairs last year. The reduction, however, is not expected to result in rationing because there still will be enough shoes to grant two per civilian per year—the current rate.

## The Voice Of The People

What do you plan to make your life work after the war is over?

(Ed. Note—The following answers were given by boys of the current class of the Waynesville Township high school.)

Arthur Paul Evans—"I plan to go to college first after the war is over and then I would like to be a physical educational director."

Joe Boone—"I would like farming. I have always lived on a farm and farmed and I think farming has good opportunities."

Bobby Gibson—"I am going to study engineering with the army, so I guess I will make that my life work."

Bob Francis—"I would like to farm and specialize in orchards."

Ralph Phillips—"I would like to be an athletic director in a high school."

Charles Hyatt—"I would like to have a good trade, but I have not decided yet. I would like to operate some kind of a store."

Billy Davis—"Electrical engineering. In September I plan to volunteer in the U. S. Navy."

Boyce Wyatt—"I think I will study Diesel engines."

Hubert Collins, Jr.—"I am plan-

ning to be a pilot and commercial aviation."

Fletcher Ferguson—"I go in the Navy and stay until I retire. I am now in Civil Service and I leave the end of this month for a job in Washington. Then I am old enough I will go Navy."

Please disregard the card with a change of address. My dress has been shortened and simplified now for which I am we will both be duly grateful.

My address is:  
 Pvt. Fred E. Davis, Jr.  
 34897694 Pks 1 or 2  
 Amarillo Army Air Post  
 Amarillo, Texas.

Curious to know which color he had given, his father asked when he returned, and replied:

"Well, Daddy, it was blue. The preacher said the Lord is a cheerful giver, and I could give a penny a year more cheerfully than I could a quarter, so I put the penny in."

A man thought he had a riddle for his wife, who was bossy, so he asked her: "Man—Why is a husband dough?"

He cackled when she thought she would look when he asked the answer which is: "Because his wife needs him."

His Wife (quickly)—Sure because it's so hard to get hands.

When his wife ran away another man, a druggist in the following notice in the newspaper:  
 "This is to notify the public so kindly relieved me of my that I can supply him with ment, bandages, arnica, salves, absorbent cotton, sleeping powders and crushed rock-bottom prices."