

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 1944
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

Milk

The figures released last week by the Pet Dairy Products Company regarding the amounts they have paid out to farmers for milk during the past month and since the first of the year give proof of how the dairying interests are progressing in Haywood County.

The sale of purebred Guernsey cattle held here Saturday will help toward improving the standard of the animals. With the opportunity offered by the Pet Dairy Products Company the prospects for a great future in dairy production seems assured.

The generous gift of a purebred Guernsey heifer to a Haywood farmer by the Pet Dairy Products Company shows a fine spirit of cooperation between the milk manufacturers and the milk producers of this area.

Back-To-School Movement

Those who have been old enough to work during the two or three years before the war is over, yet who were not old enough to get in the fight will also have a readjustment period that will offer some serious problems as pointed out recently in an editorial in the Christian Science Monitor, excerpts from which follow:

"Social agencies are issuing sharp warning against the false values absorbed by youth working at high wages not only in defense plants, shipyards, machine shops, but in trucking industries and retail stores. For youngsters wisely guided into positions fitting their individual talents, wartime employment is proving a sound safety valve for energies requiring proper effects of high-paying jobs upon the younger generation may be seen in efforts that 16- to 18- olds are leading offenders in the nation's courts.

"Towns and cities owe much to the young folk who leave classrooms to take up the slack in wartime employment. Industries of several states have officially commended the young people for relieving the manpower strain. But communities must find means for directing the youngsters back into channels of vocational training which they will need in highly competitive postwar employment fields.

"Newspaper headlines are beginning to point to the wartime luxury role of 14-to-18-year-old youngsters in \$25-to-\$75-a week jobs. Getting postwar jobs will depend upon training which youth is giving up these days for the questionable advantage of inflated wages.

"Somehow the younger worker must be made to realize that the job that looms so big from a wartime perspective will deteriorate into just another routine position two to three years from now—if, indeed there are jobs. This might be done by special schools assigned the training of wartime workers and returning war veterans hovering close to or in the teens. Here is a home-front problem requiring the most advanced type of thinking—before the war ends and leaves the young people to fend for themselves in a less hospitable business world."

Overheard at the bus depot: During a discussion on girls, one soldier remarked: "I like the shy, demure type myself. You know, the kind you have to whistle at twice."
 —Wichita, Kan., Democrat.

Despairing Defeatism

The grave danger to this country on the home front and as far as domestic problems are concerned is the wide-spread spirit of despairing defeatism.

It is bad. When people take this attitude towards domestic conditions, economic, social and political they are almost licked before they start. It is time for aggressive action to do something about conditions, rather than give up and say it's no use. No people can ever achieve recovery or stability under a spirit of defeatism. We must have faith and confidence in the American people and the American way of life. And then to try to do something to preserve the American way instead of giving up in utter despair.
 —The Reidsville Review.

Then Use Cotton

We see that refrigeration of the jaw as a local pain killer in dentistry may replace other drugs, according to Lt. Comdr. J. S. Restarski of the U. S. Medical Research Center at Bethesda, Md.

In experiments on 16 sailors and WAVES, it was reported that 22 cavities were filled using local refrigeration with a freezing temperature of 1 to 2 degrees Centigrade. No damage resulted. To prevent any pain which might be caused by sudden change, the temperature was lowered gradually.

We would like to make one other suggestion, that is the use of cotton in the ears to drown out the singing of the "grinders" as they get underway on cavities, and dentistry could be termed "painless."

In Memoriam

In the passing of Mrs. J. W. C. Johnson, editor of the Franklin Free Press, Macon County and North Carolina have lost a valued citizen. The North Carolina State Press has lost an outstanding member of its profession, who answered the call to carry on in the great emergency and made an outstanding success of her job of editing a weekly newspaper.

Mrs. Johnson was co-owner with her son of the Franklin paper, and when he was called into the service of his country, she took over, edited and managed the paper. With the welfare of the community in which she lived at heart, plus a sound business policy she had given prestige to the paper and gone forward with her son's work in an admirable manner, which won her the respect of the newspaper profession of the State.

Gold Stars

Our casualty lists are continuing to grow, and the number of Gold Star homes in Haywood County brings to mind and heart the terrific price of this war. It is strange how one can read of the lists of other areas, and they are depressing, but when it comes to our very own community and county our deepest sympathies are stirred.

We are all rejoicing with the success of the invasion in France, but it is with anxiety that we watch the progress, for there are hundreds of Haywood boys right now on the front lines, exposed to hourly danger.

Some have already paid the supreme price. Other names will be added to the list of invasion casualties. We may feel that we are having more than our share of wounded and killed in action, but we must remember the large percentage of Haywood men who are in the service.

All On A 10-Day Pass

One of the most optimistic servicemen we have heard of recently was the fellow who was publicized in "The Mid-Pacific," of Hawaii. We knew that the world was getting to be a small place, but the conception of the following GI beats everything yet, as recorded in the foregoing paper:

"Somewhere in the South Pacific area, a GI got a 10-day pass which he was supposed to spend in Australia.

"He was one day late in returning, took a terrific bawling out from his commanding officer. When an explanation was demanded, he said, 'Sorry, sir, I woulda made it, only we were held up one day in Chicago on accounta bad weather.'

"A man of no little faith, he'd planned a tight schedule. He hitchhiked from the South Pacific to New Haven, Conn., on unidentified aircraft, spent a couple of days with his wife and would have been back on time if Chicago wether hadn't been uncooperative.

"P. S.—He was fined \$1."



HERE and THERE

By
 HILDA WAY GWYN

We had the privilege during the week of reading a couple of letters written by the late Sgt. Bill Medford, gallant paratrooper, who paid the supreme price in the progress of the American forces in the great invasion of France and was killed in action on July 4. We asked permission to quote from them for the very fine description of the country. Few of us in Haywood county do not have either some member of our family or a friend in that war theatre, and we felt that the Medford family would be glad to share Bill's letters with you.

First are excerpts from a letter to his mother:

"I can't talk about the war, so I will describe the country to you. In the first place the fields are tiny and cut up by hedges and ditches. They make a fence by digging a ditch and piling up the dirt behind it, and sod and then the bushes will grow in the loose dirt. It makes a pretty good fence and also it has saved my life several times since the moment we landed. If English agriculture is the father of ours, this Normandy agriculture is its grandfather, and about as backward as a grandfather's methods would be. They have more of the same plants here like ours than they do in England. For instance, meadows are mostly orchard grass and herds grass and like ours, are largely dotted with daisies and narrow docks and large plantain. Also there is small plantain that pigs like so well. Around a barn lot will be fennel, burdock, sweet weed, and stinging nettles.

"Back in the Norman invasion they took all their crops to England and the weed seed probably went along for the ride and so on to America. Their orchard grass is really orchard grass for it grows real high under the apple trees and every man has an orchard. Also every man has a cellar full of hard cider in great barrels like tobacco tins. Their pastures are mostly red top with white clover and they also have a red clover that stands pasturing better than ours. Have seen some pastures roan with red clover and white in bloom. There is bullrush in the low moist patches and sheep soren on the banks. A big fern like ours grows in the sand of the hedges and they cut it for bedding for the stock. There is moss and mistletoe in the apple trees. The people are poor and want to talk a lot.

"They have the best dual purpose cattle that I have ever seen and they have a white face that are mostly spotted, but some are brindle. Their horses are partly percheron and some other French breed—bay color. Have seen some good thoroughbred colts. All in all it is a beautiful land and I like it better than Ireland or England. But over it all there is an air of slow decay. Something like the post-war South in 1866-1880."

Then taken from a letter to his young nieces, Margaret and Nancy Noland, daughters of his sister, Lucy:

"I will try to tell you girls about life on a French farm. First, the house is built of stone or adobe and has its back to the road and to get to it you go through a narrow gate into a courtyard which is enclosed by a square of house barn all built together. How would you like to live in the same house with the horses and cattle? All around and inside the courtyard will be chickens, ducks, calves, colts and goats. All along the walls will be cages full of rabbits, for they keep and eat more rabbits because a rabbit will live and get fat on grass instead of grain like a chicken. The rabbits are every color, black, white, red, buff, pie-

bald, and skewbald. They are pretty fluffy things when they are small. The small ducks are also very pretty, as they run away from the frantic old hen toward the nearest pond. Running around inside the courtyard may be also a baby donkey, or so. I caught one no larger than a rabbit with great floppy ears and picked it up in my arms. Then its mother followed me around.

"The French children are very polite and like our candy very much. They have had no sweets for so long, that a lump of sugar out of a K ration is wonderful to them. They wear wooden shoes which they call 'Sabots'. I have seen them with just their bare feet stuck in them, but some stick straw in and others line them with a rabbit skin. The wooden shoes seem very awkward, but they seem to get around very well and are very cheerful.

"In the windows there will be flowers of all kinds, but mostly geraniums; up under the wide eaves, will be seeds hanging, beans, roots and all and peas, mustard, onions and spinach. The only two crops that grow here and not at home are actchokes—not the kind that grows in the ground, tho they have them also, but the kind you eat the flowers. Also they grow the hardy black fig like they have in Georgia and South Carolina. There is one crop that they call Fene and the English call Broad Bean. Looks half like a bean and half like English peas. Believe it would grow at home and be a welcome addition to our garden."

While the letters give one a realistic picture of rural France, they reveal a great deal about Bill—his power of observation, his ability of expressing what he saw. They also show how he loved nature and how close he had lived to the soil. He saw France not only in the light of the present, but with its historic background and gave a understanding slant to the people who live in rural sections. . . . Haywood county lost one of its leading young farmers and stockmen and one of her finest sons, with the passing of William Medford, Jr.

Some American soldiers were standing on the edge of Mt. Vesuvius looking at the molten lava. One of the boys remarked to his companion:

"Looks hot as hell."
 An Englishman nearby remarked to his companion: "These Americans have been everywhere."

THE OLD HOME TOWN



Inside WASHINGTON

States' Rights Issue Will Bother Congress Again | Wallace May Be No Expert on Agriculture

Special to Central Press

● WASHINGTON—The problem of working out legislation to pare the nation for a German collapse consists basically of major controversy and a great deal of laborious detail.

The controversy is a States' Rights issue, one of several have bobbed up in Congress in the last year or so. The question whether unemployment compensation shall be centralized or shall remain as it is now, that is, in the hands of the states.

The battle over this issue threatens to be prolonged and may delay action on postwar unemployment compensation legislation until the German army surrenders.

It also bids fair to hold up other demobilization and industrial conversion legislation since it is generally agreed that the employment compensation question should have the right of way over conversion matters. These latter deal with the reconversion of wartime plants to peacetime pursuits and the disposal of billions of dollars worth of government-owned plants and surplus war materials. Congressional leaders believe the surplus property problem and general demobilization machinery can be worked out without striking controversial snags.

Two entirely different approaches to the unemployment compensation problem have been presented to the Senate. One is contained in the Kilgore bill, which would provide for direct federal employment compensation ranging from \$12 to \$35 per week for discharged war workers and \$20 per week for service men, plus one week for each dependent up to \$35 a week maximum. The other is the recommendation of the Senate Post-War committee revolving loan fund to guarantee the solvency of state unemployment compensation systems.

State unemployment compensation officials favor the George over the Kilgore proposal, which they fear would lead to federation of state systems.

● VICE PRESIDENT HENRY A. WALLACE, defeated by Sen. Harry T. Truman of Missouri for renomination as President Roosevelt's fourth term running mate, may be named chairman and director of agricultural products in the post-war period.

Such an organization has been in the making since the Nations food conference at Warm Springs, Va., a year ago. It is expected to become an actuality in the near future, and the Wallace appointment may be announced before the November elections.

There is precedent for the vice president of the nation to hold positions. Wallace himself served as head of the Board of Economic Warfare until that organization was incorporated into the Federal Economic Administration, with Leo T. Crowley as its chief executive officer.

The Wallace appointment is considered a "natural" by administration forces, who see in it a graceful way to move the former culture department secretary out of the political picture. It is also felt that the appointment will serve to save the wounds inflicted upon Wallace's backers when Truman tumbled him at Chicago.

The international body, according to present plans, would be a permanent organization to supervise world production of basic cultural commodities so as to avoid huge surpluses and consequent poor prices in the post-war period.

● THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, determined to avoid the conditions caused when military surpluses were dumped on the market suddenly after the last war, not only is planning carefully for post-war surplus property disposal, but already is liquidating some things that are no longer needed.

For instance, unwanted aircraft and related parts have been disposed of at a high rate recently; horses and mules which the Army found it didn't need have been sold off to farmers and thousands of pairs of Army shoes discarded.

Much of the surplus post-war property abroad is expected to be sold on foreign soil, and much that remains in the United States probably will be shipped to European areas for disposal.

The Voice Of The People

Do you think that the majority of men and women serving in the armed forces overseas will vote in the coming election?

John Boyd—"I think they will, if they can get the ballots."

W. G. Stamey—"No, I don't think so. I think they are more interested in the winning of the war than they are in politics just now."

Robt. V. Welch—"If their families will get the ballots to them, I believe they will vote."

Weaver H. McCracken—"I think the majority would like to vote, if they can get hold of the ballots."

Bryan Medford—"They will if they get a chance to vote."

Grover C. Davis—"I doubt if fifty per cent of them vote. They wouldn't if they were home."

Johnny Ferguson—"I think the majority will, if they can just get the ballots."

Ashby Howell—"No, I don't, for I don't believe they will get the ballots. You take my own son over

in India, I doubt if his ballot counts."

Alvin H. Ward—"I am not."

Mrs. Whitener Preston—"I believe they will. They have many other things to think about just now."

W. R. Francis—"They can get the ballots."

TRANSACTIONS

Real Estate

(Re Recorded to Monday Of This Week)

Fines Creek Township
 D. Reeves Noland, et ux
 Noland to Frank Rathbone

Waynesville Township
 J. R. Morgan, et ux
 Burchfield.

Fred L. Safford, et ux
 Killian.

Kenneth Anderson, et ux
 Elsie Deale Anderson, et ux
 sell, et ux Helena Russell
 L. Dillard and Myrtle M. R. L. Prevost, et ux
 Ferguson.

Horace Francis, et ux
 Francis, to Lewis Green, et ux
 Mrs. Bessie Abel to Robert

dis.
 Thomas E. Rood, et ux
 dred Eloise Adick.
 G. C. Clarke, et ux Bonnie
 to Amos Hunter, et ux.

Accompanied by a deputy American major was stopped the sentry on guard at a camp in Normandy.

Sentry: "Who goes there?"
 Major: "One American major and one-ton truck of fertilizer, buck private."

They were allowed to pass, but at every crossroad, the thru the same formula. This time the driver asked if he likely to be stopped again.

Major: "I guess so."
 Private: "Well, Major, this time we are stopped, we mind giving me priority of fertilizer?"

Husband: "My wife said some words, but I never heard mine."