

The Mountaineer

Published By
THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO.
 Main Street Phone 187
 Waynesville, North Carolina
 The County Seat of Haywood County

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 MRS. HILDA WAY GWYN, Associate Editor
 W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

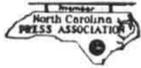
SUBSCRIPTION RATES

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| One Year, In Haywood County | \$1.75 |
| Six Months, In Haywood County | 90c |
| One Year, Outside Haywood County | 2.50 |
| Six Months, Outside Haywood County | 1.50 |

All Subscriptions Payable In Advance

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Matter, as provided under the Act of March 3, 1879, November 26, 1914.

Obituary notices, resolutions of respect, card of thanks, and all notices of entertainment for profit, will be charged for at the rate of one cent per word.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1944
 (One Day Nearer Victory)

Chimes

Christmas 1944, while marked by much spending, judging by the surging crowds in the shops about town, there has not been the element of joyful celebration felt in years gone by, in the days before the war.

It seemed no matter how much material manifestation there was at hand, during the pre-Christmas days the old jubilant feeling of "just before Christmas" was sadly lacking.

We had one feature here that helped us get the spirit, even if not in its former exalted form. When the chimes were played from the First Methodist Church at the close of each day during Christmas week, there seemed to come a spirit of peace that was almost akin to that of other years. At any rate the old familiar carols on the air gave hope for they still hold the magic of the Christmas story.

Disappearing

We have seen Christmas written "Xmas" only one time this year, much to our satisfaction. We have never liked this abbreviation of the beautiful word, which means so much to mankind.

In this day of streamlining we sincerely hope that the time will never come when the word will be shortened. In fact when everything possible seems to be going in alphabetical order it is refreshing that the tendency to use "Xmas" is on the wane.

There are many traditions which time with its changing cycles should never affect, and to us the spelling of Christmas belongs in this time honored permanent category of things immortal in our lives and hearts.

Without Doubt

Every now and then you hear a story about some foreign born person that almost puts the native American citizens to shame when it comes to expressing patriotism in tangible ways.

You may have read the story that seems to be going the rounds just now, and is reported to be authentic and not one of those coined to make a good point to an argument.

The woman is a Mrs. Mary Slachacznski, who scrubs and cleans the LaSalle Street Railroad Station in Chicago. She had been getting off a while in the mornings to go to school to study English and United States history.

Finally she had become conversant with the major events in our national history and felt that she knew enough English to get by, so she might become a citizen of this country.

When she was asked the question of whether or not she felt worthy of citizenship in the United States, she opened her purse, showing the picture of two of her sons, one in France and the other in the Pacific; her Red Cross blood donation card; and \$1,000 in war bonds "for my boys." After passing the tests she went back to her work at scrubbing the floors and cleaning up, happy to be a citizen of this great country — leaving her examiners a little sheepish over her simple gesture as to her eligibility of citizenship.

Don't blame the executive for spending money—he would have none to spend if Congress did not appropriate it.

Celebration Postponed

The following from "The Rhamkaite Roaster", a sprightly column edited by Josephus Daniels, which appears each day in his Raleigh News and Observer on the editorial page holds a timely and pertinent attitude towards present conditions:

"Ye see I wuz rite all the time when ye wuz axin' an' a-urgin' me to make a blueprint ov what ort to be done to Germany when we had licked the Nazis. I told ye that I haddent never decided how to cook a rabbit until I had the animal skinned. An' I told ye on D-Day that we wuz puttin' the cart before the hoss, by talkin' so much about punishin' the Nazis afore we licked 'em, wuzzent I?"

Discouraging News

As this is being written Germany has made gains into Belgium over territory that we here back home in America thought had been won. We should all face this new phase of the war and realize that it shows that the strength of Germany has been underestimated.

We do not as yet know all the details. We do know however, that both sides must have paid a heavy price for this progress of the enemy on territory from which they had been driven back into their own country. We are dreading the news that will come in due time from the War Department.

We are hoping that this apparent gain of the enemy is not as vital as it looks to us back home, to ultimate success, but from this distance it is fraught with discouragement and apprehension.

We here at home must also face the fact that we cannot let up one minute on every effort that is for war until the actual news of the surrender of the enemy comes to us. We must realize that the period of the duration seems to lengthen and we must prepare to meet the demands which we should know by now will be greater than we anticipated.

Caution Advised

The \$70,000,000 surplus in the State General Fund seems to attract all groups, agencies and appropriation seekers, but many persons experienced in public finance are interested in keeping within the amount of revenue that the State will receive, not merely for this year, or next, but for the next decade or longer.

Dr. Robert S. Rankin, professor of political science of Duke University, and Alfred S. Brower, former head of the Division of Purchase and Contract, who is now a special administrative assistant of Duke University, warn that the present high level of revenue won't last after the war is over.

These experts point out that there is serious danger that the State, misled by temporary prosperity which is largely the direct result of huge war expenditures, may embark upon a scale of living that will require funds greatly in excess of any amount that can be secured without a heavy increase in the State's rate of taxation.

The huge surplus, which is a consequence of war prosperity has been accumulated for the greater part during the past three years, according to Dr. Rankin and Mr. Brower. It is the result of abnormally large collections of income and beverage taxation. When the war is over and the camps are closed in the state it is pointed out that the problem of the surplus will then appear in its true light—a temporary one.

The history of appropriations in North Carolina is another story. Once an agency is set up it usually expands and its demands for funds are constantly increasing. This is verified in the record of the total expenditures out of the State's General fund. Since 1934 to the 1945 requests the latter has grown from \$23,981,932 to \$61,000,000.

If one views the state's finances as in the light of a prudent business corporation, which it should, as after all it represents the money of the people in the form of taxes, the warning is sound business.

It is further pointed out that in all probability the revenue will never return to the pre-war level, but it is foolhardy to think that the increase of nearly 100 per growth directly out of war expenditures will continue permanently.

While we are for progress and greater development of the state agencies, we find ourselves definitely on the side of these experts, and feel that danger may lie in this surplus, if not considered with reservations.

Living cost note—the new nickel cigar will cost only 7 1/2c.

On paper at least post-war air travel will be cheap.

NINETEEN FORTY-FIVE

The New Year is yours to make what you will of it. It opens up to you new responsibilities, new opportunities, and perhaps new sorrows.

To him who possesses vision, 1945 comes on the highest, the mightiest tide that has ever come flowing into our port of hope. There are those who will look mournfully into the face of the New Year. There are those who will say that the world is still in the midst of a terrifying dream. But they are the unfortunates without vision.

In our own hearts, each of us knows that the world could and should be a better place in which to live. We know that war has no place in a good world. But we know, too, that tyranny, injustice and hatred always lead to war. It is part of our job to see that those forces of evil are forever stamped out.

America is a mighty nation, and America is no more than a multiplication of our own community. Each of us must have the vision to live understandingly with our neighbors. We must not only be neighbors, we must be good neighbors. Then the insidious forces which lead to violence have no soil in which to grow. They are as seed cast upon the rock.

Our own community is proud of its past achievements. The past three years have taught us that we can do what we will in our own minds. The job we have done in the past gives us the courage and fortitude to face the future unafraid. We know that no problem is without a solution.

So it is with a spirit of genuine hope, a feeling of humility and a prayer of thanks that this newspaper wishes each of you

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

HERE and THERE

By
 HILDA WAY GWYN

Christmas has come and gone again, and is now tucked away with our memories of 1944. In many ways, regardless of the outlay of gifts, it was a false fronted Christmas. Yet a brave one. Except for the very young, who in their tender age are not permitted to realize the tragedies of the world about us, most of us, no matter how hard we tried, could not forget those boys on combat lines. Underneath our cheerful attitude, we had misgivings. The traditional joy of the season was simply not there—if one had a heart. But with us all was hope that when another Christmas rolls around, peace will be nearer.

If you look for it there is always some outstanding heart warming event that lingers as an afterthought in your thoughts of every Christmas—some that give real joy to remembering. We have a hunch that the Christmas cheer dispensed by the Lions Club this year will qualify for this classification. At least we put it in 1-A. They got a list of fifty children in the Waynesville schools, who might need some of the necessities. They divided the group into five children each. Then members of the club took them shopping. Just imagine how you would feel, if you needed a new coat, or a sweater, or if your clothes were in their last stages, and out of a clear sky somebody took you shopping and bought what you needed. The children were outfitted from undies to top coats, according to their urgent needs. Some were given shoes, overalls, and all nice warm new clothing to tide them over the winter weather. It is too bad that the Lions did not make pictures of the faces of these children. It would have been a marvelous testimonial of their good deeds. Those Lions who did the shopping, we bet, had one of the finest Christmas seasons they ever enjoyed. It should make everyone who took time to stop and place money on the dime board, know that it was well spent. Baskets were also delivered to a number of families. Happy New Year to the Lions, and may 1945 record an increase in their good works.

We recommend the following fruit sauce recipe to be used with satisfying results on that stale Christmas cake that might have been left over. We guarantee that it will be transformed into an appetizing state that will resemble much of its former delectable freshness. But the recipe would not be complete to us here in Haywood without the story. The Kelvinator Manufacturing Company held a contest for home economists throughout the country. They offered 40 prizes of \$25 war bonds to the prize winners, and the recipes were selected as to their "variety and taste appeal." Incidentally the Kelvinator Manufacturing Company is now devoting their efforts entirely to the manufacture of materials of war, making giant 2000 H.P. aircraft engines, precision built propellers, and many other needed war time products. So not wishing during this period to lose touch with the people who work along food lines, their peacetime business, they held the contest.

The following, one of the forty prize winners, won a war bond for Mary Margaret Smith, county home agent. Those of you who know Miss Smith, will readily understand

that it was by the merest chance that we learned of the contest. Here is the recipe:

1/2 cup sugar
 1 tablespoon cornstarch
 1/2 cup boiling water
 1/2 cup fruit juice
 2 tablespoons butter
 Salt—few grains

Mix sugar and cornstarch, together in saucepan. Add water slowly, mix well and boil for five minutes. Add fruit juice and boil two minutes. Remove from fire, add butter and salt. If canned fruit is used and juice is sweet, less sugar will be required. Or if juice is of desired sweetness, one cup of juice may be used instead of half

water and half juice.

The Herbert Braren's have a friend, Mrs. C. O. Chaffee, of Daytona Beach, who has lived her three score years and ten, and is still young. She recently gave her young friends her prescription for Good Health. Maybe at the close of the year, as we get our minds geared for another stretch on the highway of time, some of its homely advice might be incorporated in our good intention list for '45. For we are all going to need to look after our nerves and health more than ever during the coming strenuous days:

Do not hurry!
 Do not worry!
 Do not fail to rest.
 Sleep nine hours, rest two hours, Undisturbed is best.
 Eat some fruit, stem and root—
 And vegetables galore—
 Drink milk and cream,

Inside WASHINGTON

Taft or Vandenberg
 GOP Senate Leader?

If You Burn a Bond
 Save Serial Number

Special to Central Press

● BATTLE LINES ARE BEING DRAWN for the out-all struggle to determine which faction will control the Republican party in the Senate in the critical years ahead—with President Roosevelt riding high on his fourth term victory.

The Senate Republican conference—composed of all GOP members of the upper chamber—will elect new leadership when the 79th Congress convenes on Jan. 3. That means the end of the acting minority leadership of mild-mannered Senator Wallace White of Maine, who succeeded the late, great minority leader, Senator Charles McNary.

White, whose forcefulness has been questioned even by his friends, may be succeeded by either Senator Robert A. Taft of Ohio or Senator Arthur Vandenberg of Michigan. Taft, a Republican conservative and pre-Pearl Harbor isolationist, wants the job Vandenberg, likewise conservative and "pre-isolationist," is not keen for it.

But the backers of either meet stiff opposition from the growing "internationalist" wing of the Republican party: the wing that roared with Wendell Willkie, and in the case of Senator Joseph H. Ball of Minnesota, supported Mr. Roosevelt in a party bolt over foreign policy. These "internationalists" feel hope for their party lies in "world-mindedness."

This new group would like to see Senator George D. Aiken of Vermont the minority leader, or his colleague from the Green Mountain State, Senator Warren R. Austin. Both are champions of the administration's foreign policy.

The GOP "New Dealers" probably will not win.

● PARTICIPANTS in the recent "bonfire" movement by Miami's Consolidated Vultee Aircraft corporation employees are requested by the treasury department to send in the serial numbers of the bonds they gleefully tossed into a blazing bonfire. The treasury wants to scratch the numbers off their books. A spokesman added: "It's everyone's own business what he does with his bonds and it's his affair if he wants to use them for bonfires or wallpaper, but we don't encourage this sort of diversion."

● THE DEMONSTRATED WILLINGNESS of American industry to cooperate in a program of planned economy is perhaps the greatest single encouraging factor for prosperity in the postwar period. Business leaders have shown, as never before, their belief in the principles of a full employment economy, based on high wages and low taxes, with a resultant high income for United States jobholders.

Private organizations, sponsored by various leading business groups, have been busily mapping out ways and means of achieving a goal of from 55 to 60 million workers profitably employed. A plan is under way to promote foreign trade to the point where the United States will export 10 billion dollars' worth of goods and services annually, and import 10 billions.

Government experts hail this phase of the post-war economic program as a healthy demonstration of American industry's realization and adoption of the economic theory that prosperity and a high standard of living in this nation depends upon similar conditions in other lands.

● PROVISION FOR RETURNING stranded war workers, as well as unemployment compensation for government workers are coming up on the Senate floor again. Immediately after election the war mobilization subcommittee staff began analyzing chances for such plans, which failed to get into the reconversion measure.

Senator Harley M. Kilgore (D) of West Virginia, subcommittee chairman, concluded that "all along the line, regardless of party, liberals were elected," and announced he would offer a series of amendments to "liberalize" the George reconversion bill, enacted just before the pre-election recess. Kilgore will wait, however, until the new Congress convenes to seek to get into the law the stranded war workers provision and unemployment compensation for government workers.

Voice OF THE People

Do you plan to make New Year Resolutions?

Mrs. Paul Hays—"I plan to make them all the year, as I feel myself slipping I go over again with a new set of resolutions."

Chas. Isham—"No, I do not cause I break them."

Ernest J. Hays—"I never made them."

Wayne Franklin—"I have."

M. G. Stoney—"I don't like to do the best I can during the year."

Mrs. Paul Hays—"I haven't planned to make them."

Mrs. J. C. Patrick—"I have too busy to get around to Year's yet."

J. P. Dicus—"I guess usual resolutions."

G. C. Platt—"No, I am going to make any resolutions in 1945."

Mrs. J. B. Siler—"No, I am going to, for I make them every year."

Graver Davis—"Goodness, always try to do the best as I go along."

TRANSACTIONS Real Estate (Re Recorded to Monday Of This Week)

John Rogers, et ux to Dr. Cline.

C. N. Allen, et al to G. Ford, et ux.

East Fork Township
 Shay and Nellie Herndon to otha and Alton Henson.
 George Bradley, et ux to Heatherly.
 Chester A. Cogburn, et J. H. Braren, et ux.

Clyde Township
 C. C. Chambers, et ux to Stevenson.

M. O. Galloway, et ux to Medford.

C. E. Briggs, et ux to A. rington, et ux.

Crabtree Township
 Fred L. Medford, et ux to W. Medford.

Iron Duff Township
 R. Lee Noland, et ux to Clara Evans Palmer.

Pigeon Township
 W. E. Parris to Glenn A. et ux.

Glenn A. Parris, et ux to Parris.

Blake C. Wells, et ux to Chambers, et ux.

Waynesville Township
 D. Reeves Noland, et ux to Bat Smathers, et ux.

Hettie A. Satterthwait to Satterthwait, Jr.

Fannie Welch to J. W. et ux.

E. J. Moody, et ux to Olin.

Robert B. Pearce, et ux to bert Braren, et ux.

J. M. Long, et ux to M. Waynesville.

George M. Queen, et ux to George M. Queen, et ux.

Robert B. Pearce, et Frieda Knopf.

George Mull to Maggie R. V. Welch to Harry M. et ux.

Sue Norris to James E. et ux.

Etta Crawford to R. V. L. M. Long and J. M. Fred Wood and Bertha W.

C. A. George, et ux to Gaddis.

Mrs. Lem Stephens et M. Long, et ux.

D. Reeves Noland to W. E. gin.

C. L. Allen, et ux to C. Moody, et ux.

Laugh 'til you scream. Then go drink and eat. Walk about in open air. Thus your heart valves to. Walk and do not mind your. Then go home and eat an. Do this as long as life ling. Don't mind those bumps. Upon your fingers. That is a sign, old age app. Which upon as all eacera. Now eat some meat, some. and honey.

Don't mind if you have money—
 Be yourself, and be serene.
 And life will be a silver sea.

MARRIAGE

Oder Grogan to Daisy P. both of Canton, R.F.D. No.