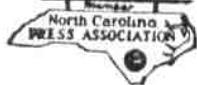


The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1945

Do They Still Have Faith?

We have heard much about the superior race in Germany since the regime of Hitler started, for he was credited many times with telling his people they were destined to rule the world.

Will It Happen Here?

Last week we read that the Caldwell county home had closed its doors after almost a century of service—to be exact for 98 years it had been the home for the aged and others who had been deprived of their homes.

Youthful Lawbreakers

We were surprised during the week to read that J. Edgar Hoover, who has studied statistics on youthful lawbreakers is warning that there is a crime wave in the making.

Brain Tonic

We read that a Columbia University psychologist has taken a group of white rats and set them to learning their way through a maze, noting how many tries were necessary before they mastered the route.

Warning

America's highest ranking prisoner of war, Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, is back in this country, happy, after his years of imprisonment by the Japs.

Part of his warning is that the United States must be well prepared, so much so that "never again will our soldiers be forced to suffer torment and starvation."

Which all reminds us are we repeating the mistake we made in Germany in World War I? Did we quit too soon out in the Pacific? Have the Japs suffered enough from the war to be impressed with their own sins against mankind?

N. C. At The Bar

North Carolina had a big part in World War II in the European theatre, and now with Circuit Judge John J. Parker of Charlotte on the four-power court to try war criminals in Nuremberg, we stand to have an opportunity to mete out the justice to the 24 high ranking Nazi war lords.

The idea, as we understand it, is to indict Nazism as such for planning a war of aggression. The tribunal on which Judge Parker will sit will set the pattern for all future war criminal trials — and the Jap leaders and of all criminals throughout the world who will be tried by other courts.

Archinal-Tojo

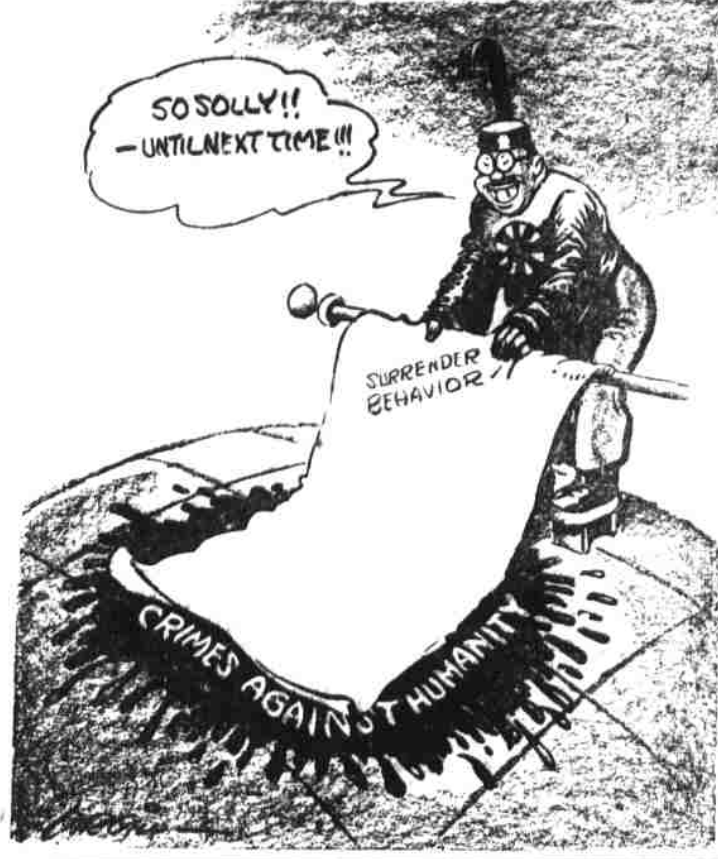
Sergeant John A. Archinal, veteran of New Guinea and the Philippines, has achieved a unique place in history so extraordinary and in a way so baffling that it makes one a trifle giddy to contemplate it.

In volunteering his blood, the sergeant was a bold man. He was getting himself, through the curious intervention of modern science, pretty deep into those ancient mysteries of life and death, of blood and redemption which have been the central themes of so many great religions.

When he re-enlisted in 1924, Sgt. Brown did not return to the Infantry, but joined the Air Corps, and has served as a master sergeant, a mechanic, in this branch of the service.

Happy days are here again — Dad and Junior can take turns licking the egg beater after whipping up the cream for dessert.

COVERING UP THE DIRTY WORK



HERE and THERE

By HILDA WAY GWYN

"I have enjoyed being a soldier, but I will be glad to return and live with my family. I expect to miss my life in the army however, but I certainly don't want to go through another war," said Master Sergeant Walter D. Brown, 48, veteran of two wars, and in the regular army for 28 years, with 30 months to go before retirement.

We have always been interested in the Sergeant and his family. We recall a number of times during the years we have been on the staff of The Waynesville Mountaineer that his mother, Mrs. J. J. Brown, would call up and say with great pride, "I have a new grandchild" and would begin, "Sgt. and Mrs. Brown announce the birth of, etc. The children range in age from Lucile, 15, down, Betty, Nona Jean, Walter, Jr., Peggy and Robert Lee—stairs.

Sgt. Brown volunteered in the army in September, 1917, and served during World War I period and was not discharged until 1923, at the expiration of his term of enlistment. He remained a civilian five months, but the tug of army life drew him back into uniform. But even at that he has been mighty lucky, for he married between wars and had a happy home, with his "squad," as he calls his family of six children and wife, and they have been with him at all times, living near his camp except the last tour of duty which took him to the Pacific. He was stationed at Polk Field, Fort Bragg, 16 years, and only in 1940, was he ordered to report to air fields in California, later to New Orleans and then back to California.

Maybe we had better catch up with our story about the first World War before we start on the second. Sgt. Brown served with the 6th Engineers, taking his basic at Fort Thomas, Ky., and later was sent to Washington, D. C., and from there was sent overseas on Dec. 17, 1917. He served in Europe from that date until Aug. 1919, first with the 3rd Division in France and later with the army of occupation. He was in six major operations during World War I, and from this was entitled to wear the Victory ribbon, five bronze stars, one silver star, and the army of occupation medal—aside from all kinds of citations, which the Sergeant would as soon cut off his right hand as to tell you about them, but his family are proud to pass the information on, so that is how we learned the inside story.

When he re-enlisted in 1924, Sgt. Brown did not return to the Infantry, but joined the Air Corps, and has served as a master sergeant, a mechanic, in this branch of the service. He trained many combat crews in California and the Pacific patrol from 1940 to 1943 before he was assigned to the 7th Air Force and sent to the Pacific.

"It was a terrible strain sweating the men out and back, for it was our job to keep the 15 planes in our group in perfect condition. The ships came back shot to pieces with flak, my metalmiths were busy night and day mending flak holes. The average time between missions during an eight months intensive bombing period, was

around two days, and it took every minute in between to get those shattered planes ready to ride again. Quite a lot of our men did not get back. It was the great distances they had to fly to fight—and if it had not been over water, they might have been rescued. The planes from our outfit helped do the damage over the Gilberts, Carolinas, Marshalls, Marianas, Bonani and Iwo Jima. Of course I am partial to the B-24's for they were the ships used in my group—with ten men to a crew," he said.

"Another thing, don't leave out the weather in the Pacific. We were only five degrees south of the equator. It was so hot that during the strain of the first three weeks, trying to get organized I lost between 50 and 60 pounds. In fact when I was ready to come home they kept me four months in Hawaii for rest. Life is hard on the boys in the Pacific. The government should not keep any man out there too long. The weather and no recreation just gets them. During the rainy season, which is steady for at least three months at a time, it does not just rain, but it comes down like a blanket waterfall. You can have two inches of rain in 30 minutes and before you know it, things are dry. You can literally wade in mud and get dust in your eyes at the same time. There are the mosquitoes and Dengue fever to contend with. The Dengue fever is a combination of sea sickness and malaria. I have seen nurses and men drop in dead faints with the fever," he continued.

"Our first assignment in the Pacific was to get our bombardment as close to the Japs as possible, but that was not easy, to keep them from knowing our location. It was tough fighting in the Pacific," he said.

"You see a lot of criticism about General MacArthur. Don't believe any of it. He knows his job and he knows the Japs. When he says that 200,000 men will be enough to have in the army of occupation he knows what he is talking about. You see what the public in general does not understand is that it would take between 600,000 and 800,000 draftees to do what 200,000 regular army men could do. It is best that the men volunteer for the army of occupation, for if a man really wants to be a soldier he makes a better one than a draftee in most cases. He wants to be a soldier and he knows how and expects to take discipline," he explained.

"Another thing I wish that people understood is that General MacArthur is not wanting anything. He is definitely not in politics. All he wants is to get things settled and retire and come home with his family," he added with much feeling.

As we talked to the Sergeant,

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



Voice OF THE People

Do you think efforts should be made to revive the former Haywood county fair—minus the carnival aspect?

Jonathan Woody—"I would rather see our Haywood Livestock and Home Demonstration Show revived, devoted to the efforts of Haywood folks with all the money kept at home."

Miss Nancy Killian—"I really would like to see the county fair revived, but I would also like a little bit of entertainment."

Frank L. Rogers—"My first impression is that we should have a county fair, for it creates interest in growing better products and livestock."

Richard N. Barber, Jr.—"Yes, I think a fair is stimulating in a county, but I also approve some form of entertainment, but not the type of recent years."

H. B. Atkins—"Yes, I think it would be mighty fine to revive the fair. There are a lot of young people who are missing something in not knowing about county fairs. I think they are very stimulating in any community, and I hope that they revive a county fair in Haywood."

R. L. Prevost—"Yes, I do approve of reviving the fair, but I do not approve of having any gambling devices that take all the money out of the community, but I would approve of merry-go-rounds and such for the children."

Noble Garrett—"Yes, I would certainly be glad to see the exhibits of livestock, agricultural and home revived in a county fair."

W. A. Bradley—"Yes, I do on account of the livestock and the agriculture, and I would like some fun and amusement features along too."

J. W. Killian—"Yes, by a big majority, and I would also like a

who was one of Ben Dixon McNeill's favorites at Fort Bragg—and was the hero of many a tall tale of this well known North Carolina reporter, also veteran of two wars, we couldn't help but wonder how the young civilian commissioned officers felt toward this seasoned 48-year old non-com, who knew all the answers in the army. We bet they weren't a bit rocky around the Sergeant, lest they display their ignorance of military tactics, for behind his good humor and jovial manner is strength and determination that we feel sure made him chief wherever he happened to serve. Incidentally we have it on good authority that the Sergeant turned down more than one chance at a commission, because he wanted to live close to his men and stay a non-com.

"I used to be the first sergeant at home, but times have changed—my wife is now, and right here I want to pay a tribute to the mothers of America. They have done a fine job. They are the ones who should have the battle stars. I know, for I have worked with too many of their young sons, not to know. I used to have had luck though, for just about the time I would get my 109 men trained to cooperate like clock work, here they would give me another group to train," he said. But we believe we understood the reason for such changes by the commanding officers, for in this ability to train men Sgt. Brown made his greatest contribution when he served on the Pacific coast getting men ready to fight the Japs.

"I hope to get in some college as military instructor so all my children can finish their education," he said when asked what he intended to do when he retired—and we thought what a lucky institution to get the Sergeant—for through his year of service he knows military tactics and through his own children knows and understands youth.

Just Odds and Ends of News Picked Up While RAMBLING AROUND By W. CURTIS RUSS

PVT. WOODROW ARRINGTON is in Manila, and from the tone of his recent letter he would be better satisfied if he could hear from more of his friends in the States. In a pathetic letter he is asking for more news from home. His address is Pvt. Woodrow Arrington, Casual Co. 97-A, APO 11794, care Postmaster, San Francisco.

BEEES have kept pupils of the Central Elementary school on the alert for the past week. The bees built their nest at the intersection of the school and street sidewalks, and after several students had been stung, the place was roped off. The little insects have a way of their own, and one of the safest rules is to give them plenty of room.

W. F. WHITMAN was fascinated at the mechanism of the press of The Mountaineer recently, but he couldn't figure how he could mix dough on it for his bake shop—neither could he figure a way to make "dough" with such a large expensive piece of equipment. That is something many a newspaperman has tried to fure out in vain, Mr. Whitman. Often it just isn't done.

H. B. HARRISON, manager of Belk-Hudson's recently gave me a book and insisted that I read it—"The Art of Living" by Norman Vincent Peale. I have read it and it is a gem. Just a few simple rules for finding a fuller life that most of us overlook every day.

ANOTHER BOOK from E. N. Pope of Raleigh, titled "Uncle Sam's Billion Dollar Baby" is the story of TVA in story book form. An interesting volume, especially

JONATHAN WOODY was recently published in the local paper, the story of the group led by the bank

The Everyday Counselor

By REV. HERBERT SPAUGH, D. D.

Here is an inexpensive aid to those thousands of men and women

Letters To Editor

URGES NEW HIGHWAY Editor The Mountaineer: Push that Pigeon River highway hard. It will be a good drawing card for Waynesville and Haywood County.

Congratulations to the town on the work of Chief of Police O. R. Roberts.

Waynesville and Haywood seem to be on the up and up. DR. E. W. GUDGER New York City Sept. 18, 1945.

little fun and a few stunts on the side, but not the kind to take all our money away."

Mrs. James E. Toy—"I certainly would, and while I do not care for it, personally, I would like to see a little of the carnival entertainment for others."

Inside WASHINGTON

Franco Remains Strong Despite Defeat of Axis Estimate 35,000 Bodies Not Yet

WASHINGTON—The position of Generalissimo Francisco and his Spanish government is considerably stronger than believed, despite the complete defeat of his Axis friends.

Diplomatic observers who predicted that the puppet chief of state would sneak out after Germany fell have been to revise their estimates. They fear now it may take some shake loose his grip on the Spanish people.

Franco holds his power through the mighty Falange army—more than one million bayoneted, popular with the army. Under Franco it fed, armed and clothed than ever before.

There is a tremendous movement on the left in Spain's underground, but it is being strong enough to overthrow Franco near future.

REPRESENTATIVE WEISS (D) of Pennsylvania, wrote to personal friends during his tour of Europe that more than three after V-E day Berlin still was a city of ruins with an estimated 35,000 bodies buried in the ruins.

General Franco "The odor of decomposed bodies still in the air," Weiss wrote. "Over 72,000 buildings and homes were destroyed. They say there are over 35,000 bodies buried in the ruins of Berlin."

THE WAR LABOR BOARD came very close to folding completely right after President Truman announced the end of Japan.

Some Labor Department officials were of the opinion that WLB, created as the government's arbiter of war-time labor disputes, should pass out of existence immediately.