THE MOUNTAINEER

Published By

THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO

Main Street Phone 137

Waynesville, North Carolina

The County Seat of Haywood County

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W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

HAYWOOD COUNTY AND SERVICE MEN

One Year	$3.00
Six Months	1.75

NORTH CAROLINA

One Year	$4.00
Six Months	2.25

OUTSIDE NORTH CAROLINA

One Year	$4.50
Six Months	2.50

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Mail Matter, as provided under the Act of March 3, 1879. November 29, 1944.

Obituary notices, resolutions of respect, tributes of the lodges and all notices of entertainments for profit, will be charged for at the rate of ten cents per line.

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION 1946 Active Member

Member North Carolina Press Association

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1946

To Be Tough

Price Administrator Paul Porter has announced that he is going to put into effect the "toughest program yet" to prevent the "black market" from staging a comeback along with meat ceilings.

From now on he claims the word will be: "Black Marketeers Beware."

OPA's enforcement agents are said to be getting help from the Justice, Agriculture, and Treasury Departments, and that the policing plan will be a forceful one.

This all sounds well, but most people are a bit disillusioned on the subject of "black markets." They fear that the trick was learned so well under the old OPA ruling that it will continue to flourish and that those who wish to be and will practice honesty and adherence to rules will suffer, while the transgressors will again take and have what they want.

Planning Ahead

While money is flowing freely and people seem to be still spending heavily, they must be thinking seriously of the years ahead as indicated by the increase in the purchase of life insurance.

Purchase of life insurance in the United States in July totaled $1,952,159,000, an increase of 73 per cent above the $1,127,506,000 in July last year, and more than double the $946,249,000 reported in July, 1941, according to the Life Agency Management Association of Hartford, Conn.

During the first seven months of the year total life insurance purchases were $12,127,722,000, an increase over the first seven months of 1945 and 92 per cent over the corresponding period of 1941.

These figures are encouraging for they show that American thrift is still prevalent in the land, and that during these "green years" they are mindful of the uncertainty of the future.

Hide Shortage Shoe Shortage

Unless the government can channel livestock through markets which comply with its regulations under the new price control order, the tanning industry will be faced with an acute and continuous crisis of raw materials, it was recently announced by the Tanners Council of America.

The council further stated that restoration of price control on livestock and meat raises a prospect dreaded by anyone familiar with the trend of domestic hide and skin supply before June 30, when price controls were lifted.

In that period, it was pointed out the movement of cattle and calves to the packers was sharply reduced and fewer hides were available from the established packing industry which had the skill and facilities for producing and distributing them, and more animals were being slaughtered outside of federal inspection by custom slaughters, by black market operators and by backyard butchers.

The bulk of cattle sent to market during this period do not, according to the authorities on beef make choice meat and may not therefore be diverted from legitimate channels.

This hide shortage does not only mean less meat on our tables but fewer leather shoes and leather goods for wear and use.

The Economy Call

The press throughout the country seems to have responded to President Truman's call for economy with favorable comment. Many are expressing the opinion that the budget should be balanced this year.

The Los Angeles, (Calif.) Times gives one of the best reasons why this balancing should take place this year in the following statement: "What hope is there for a balanced federal budget if one cannot be achieved in boom times when government's income is at a record high?"

From the Citizen, of Columbus, Ohio, comes: "We think an economy vigorous enough to provide the government with nearly $40,000,000,000 of revenue is sound enough to support a balanced budget right now.

There appears to be a difference of opinion about the suggested reduction in military expenditures. One school of thought warns that a drastic cut would weaken our military strength, and that with the present unrest in the world, this would be disastrous. Others come back with the fact that our military service is the most extravagant branch of our government.

It seems to us that if the government is to continue to collect taxes at the rate now being done, that the people as a whole are going to demand that the budget be balanced and some corners cut in government expenditures. When we were at war, we felt a certain need for high taxes, but now if these are to continue, we all would like to see the budget balanced.

Thanks to 4 Congressmen

Carolinas-Virgina farm people owe thanks to four Congressmen who fought valiantly for four important aids to farm welfare in the closing hours of Congress.

In the House of Representatives, Representative Bulwinkle of North Carolina led the successful fight for the hospital aid bill, while Congressman Barden of North Carolina fathered and brought to victory the bill which provides $10,000,000 more Federal funds each year for teaching vocational agriculture and $8,000,000 more a year for home economics. Congressman Flannagan of Virginia brought to a successful finish the long fight to get far more research to cut costs of making and marketing farm products.

In this great effort the agricultural colleges will do more research, the extension service will do more educational and demonstration work, while departments of agriculture will render increased aid in grading, inspection, market news, regulatory work, and in supervising and helping farm marketing organizations succeed.

The late Congressman Fulmer of South Carolina was a pioneer in this farm marketing effort and should be remembered gratefully in its hour of victory. Thanks are also due Congressman Cooley of North Carolina for all he has tried to do to save the best features of the Farm Security Administration. The bill finally passed is not all one could wish but can be improved in future.—Progressive Farmer.

Volunteers

Evidently Uncle Sam would like to fill the ranks of his army with volunteers, that is if one judges by the inducements that are now being held out by the army. The "real wages" now offered can compare to those offered in the industrial world. Since it looks now that we will have to maintain an army to keep pace with the rest of the world, we believe that most Americans will welcome this prestige of the army.

There are guaranteed increases with length of service. There is secure retirement to look forward to. We have heard a number of local men refer to the retirement they expected to enjoy after they had re-enlisted in the army. They pointed out that few jobs they might have would offer such inducements for security after 30 years service.

From all we read there will also be much improvement in living conditions generally, to say nothing of the change in the "caste system." It seems that the Brasshats of the army through fighting elbow to elbow with the men in the ranks, and the general resentment of some of the enlisted men against their "superior" officers that a new relationship will come about that will also have its goods points for our independent American youth.

So now the army is no longer a refuge for a "job," but will offer a career comparable to one's ability. We would like to see the army made up of volunteers, but, if not the draft will have to solve the problem. At any rate the changes being now inaugurated, we feel sure will in time draw our own men to the army in greater numbers as a career.

During the war we read in some religious magazines that the war might have been avoided in the Pacific if the churches of the nation had sent more missionaries to Japan. Well, now is the time to send them to prevent a future fight.

HERE and THERE

By

HILDA WAY GWYN

The annual meeting of the REA always brings to mind what electricity has brought to the folk who live in the rural sections, as well as to others. We pick first of those who live in the country, because they have been the last to receive this aid. We have often heard women discuss which electric appliance meant the most service to them. For the size of it, we cast our vote for the iron. Having lived in the country where we had to use the old fashioned cast iron affair, it seems to us that with trying to keep the thing with the right amount of heat, not too hot to scorch, and not too cold to press with smoothness was an accomplishment and one short lived. For the blooming thing would no sooner get just right, than it would begin to get too cold. We well remember that in summer, like most housewives, we kept the ironing board on the back porch. We could have walked many city blocks with the same number of steps it took to go from our cook stove, source of heating that iron to the board on the porch. Then came the day when you merely plugged in the cord, and yet there is a size larger appliance, say the pressure cooker, which rates with super popularity, to say nothing of the many other lesser appliances—all time and labor savers.

Incidentally you have seen puzzled by the name of the new home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Calloway out on the Howell Mill Road next door to the home of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Walker, we will be happy to throw light on the subject. The attractive three room cottage which went up practically over night for the former U. S. Army Sergeant and his wife, is called "Over Yonder" but it has no reference to overseas, in case you are old enough to recall World War II, you might get the idea of such in connection with a veteran. This is how the name came. When Mrs. Walker cannot find anything at her home she immediately thinks (for good reason we have been told) that Sara Jane has borrowed it and nine times out of ten she will find it "Over Yonder." While speaking of Joe and Sarah Jane, we want to extend our congratulations on the arrival of their new daughter. They are now the proud parents of what we are told is a millionaire's choice of a family—one son and one daughter.

It is a funny thing how so often in life we seek information that lies right at hand from some unexpected source if we only knew how to get it. The following story from the Canadian press enlightens us.

A girl reporter on a Winnipeg newspaper was trying to think of the word meaning fear of heights. She asked the city editor, the managing editor, the chief editorial writer. None of them knew the answer.

She couldn't find the word she wanted in the office dictionary or Roger's Thesaurus. Then she started telephoning. A psychology professor, said he had the word on the tip of his tongue, but that didn't help. A social service executive couldn't think of it but said he'd look through his library.

Then came the inspiration—radio announcers. They are supposed to know everything. Appeals to three radio stations brought no results.

Toronto was queried, but didn't know. New York at last came back with the answer, the wrong one—Altophobia.

The office boy strolling by the reporter's desk, noticed her worried look.

"What's bothering you kid?" he asked. She told him.

"The word you're after is acrophobia," he said casually and passed on. She had the credit word at last.

Recently a summer visitor came in The Mountaineer office and asked us what she termed a very silly question, but she had her children with her and they were anxious to get all the big thrills possible out of the mountains. . . "Where could we go to see the largest number of bears?" A day or so later Mr. John L. Davis told us of a trip he had made to Knoxville, en route through the park with his son LeRoy Davis, and we are hoping that the mother had such good luck, as she followed our advice to take to the Great Smokies. They saw 12 bears on their way to Knoxville. In the number was one mother with three cubs, another with two, and two yearlings. Two of the bears were in captivity at Smokemont, and all of them were as gentle as dogs, said Mr. Davis, but "I guess the biggest back to nature experience was the narrow escape we had when we almost ran over a polecat in the road," concluded Mr. Davis.

YOU'RE TELLING ME!

By WILLIAM RITT
Central Press Writer

THIEVES breaking into a jewelry store window discovered the display was made of tin, not gold. It's getting so even criminals can no longer trust honest people.

! ! !

Elephants now sell for an average of $3,500 each. A big investment.

! ! !

To improve the view from his house a Canadian had a mountain torn down. But what did he do with the pieces?

! ! !

Molotov, according to one correspondent covering the Paris peace conference, is a confirmed thumb-twiddler. Since they are usually down on any suggestion, it sounds like a good trick.

! ! !

African hunters report finding and capturing a native boy who can outrun a gazelle. This won't interest any baseball fan unless the kid can hit.

! ! !

That English talking dog, we hear, is now six years old. Just a first grader, eh?

! ! !

"Peace," an editorial tells us, "may not be signed until Christmas." Well, it would make a nice gift at that.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Would you favor increasing allotments to the aged and to dependent children?

Earl J. Ferguson—"Yes, I would favor an increase as I do not think they are paid enough according to the present scale of things."

Jonathan Woody—"I certainly would. Those of us who are able to work should take care of the less fortunate."

Henry Davis—"Yes, I think that this payment is one of the finest things our government does."

Dr. Sam Stringfield — "Yes, I favor such if they are not able to take care of themselves, for it would be different in case they could. Money has been flush and the cost of living has gone up, but not these allotments."

W. G. Byers—"I consider this payment one of the finest aids our government gives."

M. G. Stamey—"Yes, I would favor such an increase, for it is a much better way to take care of them than keep them in a county home."

Carnuba Wax

In addition to floor wax and furniture polish, carnuba wax is also used in shoe wax, phonograph records, sound film, electric insulators, soap, candles, lubricating oils and carbon paper. Wrapping paper, cardboard, textiles, and industrial machinery are waterproofed with it. It goes into lipstick, picric acid for gunpowder, sealing material for dry cell batteries, plasters, matches, cable coverings, paints and varnishes.

ALONG BROAD

By

Walter Winch

When George White, whose "Scandals" rivaled Ziegfeld's "Follies," ran into hit-and-run trouble in San Diego, the supposedly hard - hearted Broadway boys called a meeting and chipped in for a defense fund . . . Buddy de Sylva was the leader . . . The kitty went to $50,000!

Faye (Mrs. Roosevelt) Emerson returns to the stage at Cape Cod, Mass., August 12, in "Here Today," a warmed-over Ruth Gordon vehicle of 1934 . . . It's official: Joan Crawford's next is "Possessed" with Van Heflin, based on a Cosmopolitan magazine novelette, "One Man's Secret," by Rita Weiman . . .

Civil aeronautics bureau may not know this: When it approved a around-the-world route for TWA linked with Northwest Airlines, Howard Hughes, who owns TWA, had an option on control of Northwest . . . TWA is to fly N. Y. to Shanghai, via Europe; Northwest is to pick up there, flying to Alaska and Seattle . . . Hughes' option was to become effective if and as and when Northwest got government permission to fly the Pacific . . . So it appears Hughes, who broke the around-the-world air record, has in hand the around-the-world route he laid out on that

Capital Lett

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

ENLISTED MEN and Officers—The charge has been made that the meeting was run by officers, not by enlisted men. Well, Frank Parker who was a staff sergeant in the Army, presided, and many of the former officers present entered the service as lowly enlisted men and moved up. Is that a crime?

EXCITEMENT—The meeting began a little on the Quaker side but about 10:30 things began warming up—and several of the delegates got things off their chest, principally the Asheville boys, who sparked the meeting any time there was a lull in enthusiasm. Said they in effect: "Don't be afraid. We have tasted victory, and we know you can win!"

RESOLUTIONS—The following were adopted as "Challotte Resolutions": world peace; "N. C. should assume leadership;" national defense; participation in elections; labor—"we believe in the fundamental right of labor;" minority groups; public health; public education—more money for school teachers; and Federal aid for schools. State employees salaries . . . "we

Service on Saturday

Did you wait in line last Saturday?

Saturday is rush-day for most business houses, and especially for banks, where payroll and other week-end requirements of depositors must be met in the space of a few hours.

If our preoccupation with this Saturday peak load has inconvenienced you — if you have had to wait in line a bit — we regret it. We want to be as helpful as possible, and we hope you will understand if we can not serve you as promptly as we'd like during the Saturday rush.

If you can schedule visits to the bank on other days than Saturday we can assure the kind of service that will satisfy you—and us.

"The Friendly Bank"

THE

First National Ba

ORGANIZED 1902

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

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