

THE MOUNTAINEER

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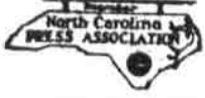
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1946

Vital Role

We were interested in the meetings held in Charlotte last week of the REA groups which were attended by the manager and another employe of the Haywood Electric Membership Corporation.

Governor J. Melville Broughton made an illuminating talk on the development of rural electricity and brought out the fact that in this lies the greatest economic hope for the South. He asserted, "These small community-supported industries will provide an economic nucleus for rural areas and help pave the way for a more prosperous South."

Mr. Broughton also emphasized that rural electrification will also play an important part in North Carolina's good health program. It will supply the needed power for small rural hospitals, and will help relieve much of the drudgery of farm workers, which will promote better health, it was brought out by Mr. Broughton.

We know what the REA has done for Haywood county in the few short years since it was established and its lines strung over our section. We also realize that had not the war come and restricted its larger development, its service would have been much greater.

Drive Opens

The 40th annual Christmas seal sale sponsored by the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association was launched locally yesterday. It would be hard to estimate what the sale of these penny seals has meant toward stamping out one of the most dreaded of diseases.

That is one of the fine things about modern medicine, the development of preventive measures. Years ago we took no action until the patient was down and out. Today we recognize certain conditions and combat them before they become realities.

Each year the money derived from these small Christmas seals is spent on a good health campaign. It is aiding in cutting down our cases of tuberculosis.

It is something in which we can all help, for the cost of the seals is within the reach of us all. No matter how small our purchase, we have taken part in a great crusade.

Let us not forget to include in our happy Christmas shopping a large number of these seals as we feel we can afford to buy.

What Does It Mean?

We live so far away from the high spots of contact with international diplomats that often we folks who reside in the small communities and crossroads of America don't realize what is actually happening until the curtain is about to rise on the play. Then with a shock we find we are scheduled to take part in the performance, though we had no idea we would be included in the caste.

You recall back in 1939 a lot of things were shaping up which we thought did not concern us—and that to even suggest that they did, was simply borrowing trouble. As the years went by and each month we saw the buses fill up with our Haywood county men, we knew then that we had been a part of the picture all along, but had not recognized the fact.

The following taken from Drew Pearson's column should make every American think, and think hard. A party up in Washington may not be of special interest to us down here trying to work out our problems, but it might prove to be our business.

"The Russian Embassy trotted out Russia's second-best drawing card, Foreign Minister Molotov, for the annual reception celebrating the Soviet Revolution. Even his presence, however, failed to disguise the deterioration of Russian-American relations.

"Significant was not who came but who stayed away. For the first time since 1940 the bulk of the Cabinet was absent. So were most members of Congress, even those still in Washington. The Russians knew the freeze was on. For the first time in five years they roped off the third and fourth floors of the Embassy, in previous years loaded down with choice viands, rare cuts of beef and free-flowing vodka. The crowd simply didn't show up. The Acting Secretary of State attended. So did the Undersecretary of the Navy, so did fumbling Secretary of Treasury John Snyder, who loves a party no matter where it is. There were also a few brass hats, but the outpouring of top hats seen in former years failed to materialize.

"Molotove's entire visit to Washington was a diplomatically correct but cool performance. He was met at the station by Acting Secretary of State Acheson, visited the State Department for 10 minutes, and spent 10 minutes at the White House—just long enough to say hello and pose for photographers.

One Cabinet member who did not show up at Molotove's party was Secretary of Commerce Averell Harriman, ex-Ambassador to Moscow. Harriman recently was quoted as saying Russia and the United States couldn't live together, but he greeted Molotov in the back room of the Embassy with a forced smile."



HERE and THERE

By
HILDA WAY GWYN

Having recently had some thief casualties in our family we lent a more than sympathetic ear to the story of Mrs. Newton Brendle who had to tell her Thanksgiving shopping tour. The Friday before Thanksgiving Mrs. Brendle came to town early and bought her Thanksgiving dinner so that she would have nothing to worry about the week of the great national day of Thanksgiving. She made her purchases and we all know how money just melts in a grocery store. Before she knew it she had bought \$12 worth of accessories to be served with the festive bird. She left her packages with her name plainly written—and went to do other shopping. When she returned, alas her groceries were gone. Some customer whose desire for food was not supported by their pocketbook had walked off with her groceries. It is a bad story from a number of angles, and certainly the old one about getting ready ahead of time. She was more charitable we fear, than we would have been. We met her on her second shopping rounds and she told us she hoped whoever stole her groceries enjoyed their dinner—we might have been tempted to wish that they choked on our celery, etc.

We read with interest the results of a recent survey by the American Institute for Family Relations—excerpts follow—The average man hasn't "gone with" more than six girls before marriage. Among 2,169 naval discharges (aged 17 up) Dr. D. G. Townsend, a chaplain, found many teen-agers who had never had a date. Of these aged 25 (average age of first marriage) and over, no one claimed to have been dateless. But seven per cent of the total had dated only one girl and 10 per cent only two girls. Thirty-two men had gone with 50 girls each, which in the opinion of Dr. Joseph Folsom, sociology professor at Vassar College, is the ideal number. The survey further revealed that young people who have had many friends, usually are more successful in marriage than those with few friends. The survey further showed that the girls, the boys do not marry are a vital factor in promoting a successful marriage—so we would advise all mothers and sons, not to worry about their everlasting dating—and a new girl every week or so. We have always had the opinion that the larger the field to select from the more opportunity one might have to know what one wanted.

We had always had the impres-

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Do you think the American people are getting the habit of taking their problems to the Federal government rather than attempting to solve them in their home towns and states?

Noble Garrett—"The people certainly have been encouraged to do that, in fact almost forced to, during the past 14 years."

Mrs. Janet Crittenden—"I think so."

Mrs. Laurie Arrington—"I think that a lot of our problems should be taken to the government."

E. R. Cogdill—"Yes, I think they are getting that habit."

Paul Davis—"When Roosevelt became president during the big depression the people wanted something done. The government began taking the lead in working towards solutions of our problems, and the tendency has been since that time of looking towards the people in Washington for help in many of the things we undertake. I believe we should start depending more upon ourselves."

John Palmer—"I think they are taking too much to the government."

John Palmer—"I think they are taking too much to the government."

On our desk we found three copies of the "Fines Creek Reflector," the paper of the Fines Creek high school, which is mimeographed and gotten up in a very attractive form. It is "published" monthly by the senior class of the high school and the staff is composed of Editor-in-Chief, Doris Rathbone; Associate Editor, S. T. Swanger; Advertising Managers, Geo. McCracken and Robert Russell; Circulation Manager, Faye Justice; Sports Editors, Jack Greene and Mary Grey Walker; Feature Editors, Marie Early and Mary Jane McCrary; Society Editor, Elva Trantham; Art Editors, Ruth Sutton and Wilbur Teague; Reporters, Eugene Taylor, Martha Ledford, Dorothy Rathbone, Doris Teague.

(Continued on Page Three)

Washington Letter

By JANE EADS
A WOMAN IS THE KEEPER OF THE GREAT SEAL.

WASHINGTON—In an odd-looking cherrywood cabinet in Room 171 of the State Department, the great seal of the United States is kept under lock and key despite the frequent use to which it is put. It is affixed to proclamations of the President, ratifications of treaties, the commissions of members of the cabinet and of American ambassadors, ministers and foreign service officers and certain other documents.

All of these documents must first be signed by the President and the secretary of state before the design of the seal is impressed upon a paper wafer which has been glued to the document.

Little Mrs. Clydia Mae Richardson, with an up-swept pompadour hairstyle and a pleasant smile, is in charge of the presidential appointments and authentication section of the department's Division of Protocol. She is keeper of the seal.

Her job and that of her assistants is a complicated one. When Congress is in session, the section prepares the nomination of government officials on a handsome handwritten or "engrossed" form which is signed by the President at the White House.

This form is then given to the chief of records, Herbert L. Miller, a civil service appointee from Mississippi, who takes it up to the U. S. Senate. The secretary of the Senate takes the form to the president of the Senate, who cuts in on the message.

Inside WASHINGTON

Schwellenbach to Resign? | Soviets Are Trying to "Sell" CIO, AFL Frown on Him | System to American People

Special to Central Press
WASHINGTON—Some AFL leaders look for Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach to resign his cabinet post before long. They point out that he is "in bad" with both major union groups; his health has been poor for some time, and all of the big labor decisions are more often than not made at the White House.

Despite the pleas of Dan Tracy, former assistant secretary of labor and newly-elected president of the AFL Electrical Workers, the federation's executive council refused to invite Schwellenbach to its Chicago convention this year.

The CIO also is expected to omit Schwellenbach's name from the list of speakers at its convention. The CIO has never forgiven Schwellenbach for naming an AFL delegate to the ILO meeting after the post allegedly had been promised to the CIO.

Schwellenbach has been left out entirely in the current coal-wage case and the recent maritime strikers were handled in a large part at higher levels. Reconversion Director John R. Steelman even announced settlement of the Washington hotel strike after the labor department had worried with it for three weeks.

Schwellenbach ● THERE IS NO FALSE MODESTY about the official attempts of the Russian government to "sell" the Soviet system to the American people.

The USSR Information Bulletin, an attractively printed and widely circulated publication distributed by the Soviet embassy in Washington, is unblushing in its aggressive presentation of the glories of Communism.

The current issue, for instance, includes such titles as these: "Soviet Democracy Is a Higher Type of Democracy"; "The Soviet System—A System of True Popular Government"; "USSR, Champion of Small Nations"; and "The October Revolution Saved Civilization."

In the last-named article, credit is given the Soviet Union for saving the Allies from atom bombing—or worse—at the hands of the Nazis.

The Soviet propaganda medium reaches not only Americans who are sympathetic to Communism but many thousands of students and others who thus receive an extremely rose-colored picture of life behind the iron curtain.

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You'll see this familiar emblem displayed in cities, towns and hamlets all over the Nation. It stands for friendly, economical, convenient transportation over the most scenic highways in the world.

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Your friendly Trailways bus agent will gladly help you plan your trip. You'll find him at the bus depot displaying the familiar Trailways sign... "the sign of true travel pleasure."

SMOKY MOUNTAIN TRAILWAYS
Depot Street PHONE 136 Waynesville
NATIONAL TRAILWAYS BUS SYSTEM

Too Many Parties

We may have our political problems, but they are nothing compared to those of France. The situation in France causes weakness in foreign as well as domestic policies. A government which is weak at home is certain to be weak abroad.

The following resume of the recent French general election, which came a few days after our own should bring home to Americans the immense advantages of the two-party system as practiced in our country. Because it does not follow this system France is doomed to experience weak government at a time when a positive policy is essential to national recovery.

A dozen parties contested on November 10 for the 618 seats which, including 45 seats allotted to the colonies, and compose the French National Assembly—similar to our House of Representatives. No single party won a majority of seats or anything like it.

The largest single party, by a very small margin, will be the Communists. They cast approximately one-third of the total vote and captured 183 seats. Next came the Popular Republicans, with about 25 per cent of the vote and 162 votes seats. In the third place are the Socialists, which polled almost 2 per cent of the total vote and will hold 101 seats. The none remaining parties divide control of the other 172 constituencies.

Because of the French elections the Foreign Minister of that country, George Bidault, did not attend the meeting of the Big Four in New York. His deputy cannot commit the French government to anything because he does not know what the policy of his government will be.

Congratulations

We congratulate the sponsors of the Haywood county Annual Achievement Day program on the selection of Senator Clyde R. Hoey as the principal speaker for the event. With a fine understanding of the problems of the state, and with a sincere interest Mr. Hoey has much to offer.

Added to these his power over the spoken word and his ability to talk made him one of the outstanding public speakers in the state.

This annual event is one of the most comprehensive of rural programs held in the county. Since all farm groups are combined and recognition given to the men, the woman, and the boys and girls, each age receives inspiration from the other in their progressive course toward a better rural life in Haywood county.

In addition to Senator Hoey, a number of officials from the State Extension Service will be present to give a message to the Haywood farm folk and their families, which is always an attraction on any program of this kind.

Plenty of Corn

The farmers of North Carolina have just completed harvesting the largest corn crop ever produced in the state, according to the State Department of Agriculture.

The yield per acre was 26 bushels, while in 1945 it was 21 bushels, and the total over the state was 58,708,000 bushels. This year's crop is reported to be two per cent larger than the 1945 crop, and 17 per cent greater than the 16-year average.

Through emergencies we often learn better ways to do things, and no doubt the urge to help feed the world helped us here in the state to produce more corn.