

THE MOUNTAINEER
Published By
THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO.
Main Street Phone 137
Waynesville, North Carolina
The County Seat of Haywood County

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

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

HAYWOOD COUNTY AND SERVICE MEN
One Year \$3.00
Six Months 1.50

NORTH CAROLINA
One Year \$4.00
Six Months 2.25

OUTSIDE NORTH CAROLINA
One Year \$4.50
Six Months 2.50

NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION
1947 Active Member

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 1947

Another Big Celebration

We are happy to see that nother county-wide Fourth of July celebration will be held at the High school grounds again this year. Last year the Boosters Club staged their first such event, and the record made then justifies repetition of the event.

Everything was clean, open and above board, not a single objectionable phase to the entire program. Proof of this was the fact that even special officers on duty did not make a single arrest during the five-day celebration.

The sponsors did not allow a single gambling point, or any unit that wasn't a clean, safe ride to set up on the grounds.

The local athletic contests attracted wide interest, and the music by the high school band, and the quartets were other big drawing cards.

The committee has already announced the same plans and rules will be followed again this year, with the possible addition of a community-wide union church service on Sunday night. This we think, would be most fitting, and in keeping with the remainder of the high type program the group has in mind.

This newspaper welcomes the opportunity to cooperate with such events, just as long as there is not any semblance of a carnival. This county does not have a place in its social or entertainment program for carnivals.

How Long Will Winter Be? --- Groundhog Ready For Prophecy



Each year when I step from my hidden
To view what is new in the land,
My utmost secrets are pried out
By men who are waiting at hand.

Suppose, when we gather together,
I wouldn't respond as I do
Not knowing the whether
And why of the weather
They'd be in a heck of a stew.

PUNXSUTAWNEY glorifies the groundhog with home talent art and verse by Bill Pratt

By ELAINE RAHN
AP Newswriters.

PITTSBURGH, Three hundred and sixty-four days a year a groundhog, Arcconus Monax or Marmota Monax if you woodchuck admirers want to be technical, is only a groundhog. But come Feb. 2 and the groundhog is an oracle, no less.

To at least three bitterly rival Pennsylvania sects, Mr. Groundhog becomes a weatherman of weathermen the "Greatest of Sages" and even the "King of all Prophets."

From Punxsutawney's Gobbler's Knob in the western part of the state to Skunk Hollow in Quarryville and the Pennsylvania Dutch Grindswallow Lodge in Allentown there is unity in only one respect: faith in the groundhog's ability to foretell the weather for six weeks from Feb. 2.

They're Hogs for Shadows
Seating at snuffers and the two rival lodges, members of the Skunk Hollow Lodge of Groundhog admirers, solemnly recant.

Members of the Quarryville Lodge, formally dressed in long white nightshirts, fancy top hats and beaming crooked staffs, make an annual dash to it each Feb. 2 to the groundhog hole, at Skunk Hollow.

Jealous of its membership, the lodge took in only 32 men in 30 years and only three outsiders.

HERE and THERE
By
HILDA WAY GWYN

There is something about Washington City that gets the American citizen — the central point of our government has not only historical significance, but a current touch of pageantry mingled with its background of pioneer tradition that gets under the skin of the American.

Perhaps that is why America has become so great. The visitor may be a sight seeing tourist for only a day or so, or he may be a professional statesman (or politician) or a governmental official or employe, but they all succumb to the glamor of the capital. Take Clifford Brown, a recent Haywood resident, and now secretary to Congressman Monroe Redden.

We had a long talk with Clifford last week. Washington has him — just as it has gotten thousands of others. He feels the charm of the excitement and the lift that we get out of our national capital and the life centered there. Naturally being a politician Clifford gets a big kick out of seeing how the game is played by the big boys after they are elected to office.

"I was a little apprehensive about how the higher ups would treat folks, but I have found that the bigger the man, the more simple he is, and they are certainly the most hospitable people and the most cordial I have ever met," he said in speaking of the men who compose our House of representatives and the Senate.

"But a cousin of mine, Clarence McGee, from South Carolina, who works in the Library of Congress rather took the wind

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Would you approve making a separate department of the Game and Inland Fisheries from the State Department of Conservation and Development?

Jack Messer—"I would approve of separate departments, for I think it would be best for both."

Felix Stovall—"Yes, I would approve of such a change, for I think it would contribute to better hunting and fishing."

C. J. Reecer—"I certainly would approve of such and there are more than 100 good reasons, but the main one is that there would be more interest in and better hunting and fishing."

F. G. Rippeloe—"I definitely would approve."

Dan Watkins—"I am not satisfied with the present set up and the separation might help some."

J. W. Killian—"Yes, I would approve of such a plan."

confident manner, and you guessed that he had in mind, though he did not say it of course, now that the Republicans are in the majority. I have given for the facts, now what are you going to do with them?"

We jaded him with questions about the change in the majority and what effect it would have but he was very careful to shy away from such questions, though he made some remarks off the record. They all added up to the fact that the Republicans are in the saddle, but they have already run into some snags that will no doubt keep them from living up to some of their campaign pledges, for no matter who said that taxes would be reduced in a big way, it takes a lot of money to run this country to say nothing of paying for a war and what comes after.

The cooperation of the officials and the higher ups in helping you learn your job and untangle your problems is given in the best of spirit. You learn something new every day that helps you on your job the next day. The first day in our office, trying to get on to things, I felt like a bull in a china shop. It was somewhat different from working in an office here in the courthouse. Mr. Redden's office was simply covered up with work. There are so many requests of every kind. You would be surprised at the things people ask you to do—and the mass of information they want. We had a request for some pamphlets on "The American Indian and we

(Continued on Page Seven)

Capital Letters
By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

LINDSAY TOO—Two or three weeks ago this column reported on Get Charlie Justice. We are anxiously awaiting to tell us of a North Carolina story on January 31, 1947. Harry, pronounced "Wishes."

RECONSTITUTED watered milk lately. Whether you know it or not, PER CENT OF MILK IN NORTH CAROLINA YEAR WAS WATERED.

So far, it has been papers, but there is and here is how it is powdered, milk from the Midwest and the purchasers then put the water back on it. (Continued on Page 3)

Washington Letters

By JANE EADS

CONGRESSMEN GET OUT THEIR BOOK OF BIOGRAPHIES

WASHINGTON — The Congressional Directory of the 80th Congress is due to come out in February.

It is compiled under the direction of the joint committee on printing. During the war it ran into 35,000 copies, twice a year, but probably will drop a little this year. Many wartime copies went to the Army and Navy.

It contains chiefly biographical sketches of Senators and Representatives. In addition it lists all congressional committees, all departments and agencies of government, foreign consular offices in the States, official clubs of legislative branches of government, maps of congressional districts, address calendar.

The directory also lists of members of both House and Senate, House News Photographers, radio news galleries and periodicals.

Although it is distributed to those whose names in it, it may be purchased for \$1.25 from the Superintendent of Documents. (Continued on Page 3)

BROADWAY
By Jack O'Brian

SETTINGS BY JO ARE PART OF HIT ON STIM, BY JO!

NEW YORK—It is getting so that the name of Stage Designer Jo Mielzner is cropping more and more into theatrical conversations as a sort of trademark of distinction, like a moustache on those men in the whiskey ads or a pair of striped pants at a wedding.

In one week alone, three shows opened in as many days which bore the truncated first name of this talented scenic artist. "The Big Two," which was produced by Screen Star Robert Montgomery, and Elliott Nugent, one of the better directors and actors of stage or films, had thespian use of Claire

Trevor and Philip Don as a continental come Felix Bressart, but the lights of the evening were by Mr. M's set. The set saw the premiere of the "Street Scene," and again Mielzner motif which set ground mood for the proceedings; Jo also designed inel straight-drama "Street"

Not satisfied with the triumph, Mielzner again with the fanciful designs brilliant new musical "Rainbow," thereby taking of the optical time of the first nighters, a feat duly toasted by admirers

(Continued on Page 3)

A Destructive Fire

The destructive blaze which struck on Main street Tuesday afternoon, brought real sorrow to all of us.

We know we speak the sentiment of the community when we see the sympathies of all of us go to those who lost so heavily.

Since the terrible conflagration in Atlanta last December, we feel that people are more fire-conscious, and when the alarm sounded Tuesday afternoon it was easy to see on the faces of the on-lookers the deep concern they had for the owners of the buildings and business involved.

As bad as the fire was, there is still much to be thankful for, and that is no life was lost, and only minor injuries sustained among scores who helped combat the stubborn blaze.

Preventable

Information contained in a recent survey, even incomplete, by the State Hospital Care Association shows that during the recent holiday season at Christmas there were 741 people in North Carolina who received treatment for injuries caused by fireworks. There were no doubt many more who recovered home and did not consult physicians.

The survey broken up was as follows: 121 classified as serious; one had lost an eye; six losing the vision of an eye; and 37 receiving eye injuries.

These figures should give the people of North Carolina serious concern and they should get behind their representatives in the current assembly to see that legislation prohibiting the sale of fireworks in the state be passed.

We have always thought that this was one of the poorest ways in which to celebrate Christmas ever in record. When one considers the meaning of Christmas, and the season, why and how did such a custom ever get started is a natural question.

We understand from the press that there are a goodly number of lobbyists on the job down in Raleigh working for the interests of the makers and dispensers of fireworks and that pressure will be brought for the continued sale of this hazard to safety and health.

Schools

As we have stated before we know that membership on the Budget Commission must have been one big headache. Take what we want the Legislature to give us as our part of various funds from the state, here in Haywood county and multiply it by one hundred. You would get a nice neat sum of money and in addition think of the state agencies that are putting in requests for appropriations.

During the war our school buildings needed attention to repairs, in many cases it was impossible to give them. In the meantime enrollments are on the increase and facilities are not sufficient to take care of the situation.

Like so many other conditions our poor educational advantages were exposed during the war years and we were brought face to face with a situation that we have all realized must be changed, not only in buildings, but salaries of teachers. In our schools we are building for the future and we cannot afford to neglect this responsibility.

Observers at the General Assembly seem to be of the opinion that if there is a recession or evidence that one is just around the corner, the legislators will be very cautious as to how they approve appropriations.

Waiting Lists

Without intending to sound a pessimistic note we refer you to the story on the front page of the last issue of The Mountaineer regarding the decline of job openings in this area and the subsequent number of persons seeking employment.

It does not take most of us very long to recall other years when this reached a serious condition. We sincerely trust that we never reach this stage again, but it will take planning to avoid it. Authorities on the subject are recommending that the communities take action and foresee what may happen, in seeking out industries and encouraging the development of resources at hand. In this way, when the tide of prosperity recedes, we will be ready to meet conditions.

On the other hand this turn in conditions should make all workers realize the advantage of being settled in employment and give their best efforts.

Youth's Chances

Attorney General Tom C. Clark has made a strong appeal to the people of this country in a message written recently for the Associated Press to bring the needs of Youth before the public during National Youth Week (Jan. 26-Feb. 1), which is full of good advice and is also a challenge.

Mr. Clark points out that attempting to lead youth into rich and purposeful living after they are already in trouble is not an easy task. It is not only difficult but more costly and often too late. In some respects it is like providing safeguards at a railroad crossing after lives have been lost through tragic accident.

Since delinquency is the symptom rather than the problem itself, it is of primary importance that every community in America endeavor to safeguard all youth and provide better environment and opportunity for normal growth and development, according to Mr. Clark.

It is up to the communities. If every community strengthened the traditional institutions of American community life—the home, the church, the school and related activities—that are essential to happy, wholesome growth of all children, and erected safeguards against local influence that endanger health and welfare—then a long step would have been taken in the prevention and control of delinquency, points out Mr. Clark.

We cannot get away from the fact that normal home and family life are the foundation of effective American citizenship. This brings the responsibility right to our own front doors of our homes and our communities. During the past few years Americans have been busy on other things—things that have taken us away from home.

Mr. Clark advises that each community survey its problems and take stock of its resources in youth and chart a course of action that will not only deal with its particular delinquency but meet the needs of all the boys and girls.

They Are Needed And More

We see where the North Carolina Board of Medical Examiners has granted licenses to 61 young people to practice medicine, with a number of girls included in the group.

We are told that North Carolina needs from 1,200 to 1,500 more doctors, so at the rate of 61 a year it will take a long time to fill our great need.

A Safe Place For Valuable Papers

The entire community exceedingly regret the misfortune our businessmen and customers recently suffered in a disastrous fire loss. We express to them our sincere sympathy.

Such disasters bring forcibly to mind the need of a safe place for valuable papers such as fire insurance policies, deeds, notes, and other personal letters. We still have a few safe deposit boxes for rent. The rates are reasonable.

THE First National Bank

ORGANIZED 1902

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Member Federal Reserve System