

THE MOUNTAINEER

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Hospital Facilities

There is no argument to those familiar with the needs of Haywood county to bring against the proposed efforts of the civic groups to get improvements and increased hospital facilities for our people. If there is a person in the county who has any doubts about this we feel sure that Mrs. Irene Rogers, superintendent of the Haywood County Hospital, will be glad to give them a tour through the crowded wards there to enlighten them with the most convincing evidence.

There is much to be said on both sides of the proposal of the great hospital and medical center at Chapel Hill. It is always wise to build for the future, but at present we seem to be faced with a crisis, that demands a short cut to relief.

We have two of the best medical schools in the country in North Carolina, and from the viewpoint of the majority of us it would appear that giving aid to the thousands of our people would be a major consideration at this time.

Building Back

One of the most depressing sights we are given is to watch the destruction of the material aspects of a business destroyed by fire. It demonstrates how helpless man is against the elements.

On the other hand to see the remains of destruction being gradually recreated and built back is a stimulating sight for one realizes then that there are bigger things than mere materials that are necessary to ward coming back.

The sound of the hammers as they ring out from the Garrett and Noland buildings, are a lesson to us all. For no matter what setbacks we have there is usually the chance to come back, and our spirit can ride roughshod over discouragement. When we stop to think it is this very spirit that helped build up and create in the beginning.

We feel that the citizens of our community are all interested in seeing the comeback of those who were unfortunate to have losses by fire, and will find a challenge for themselves in the manner in which they build back.

Library Aid

We note that an appeal is being made by our county librarian to ask for representatives in the General Assembly to give their support to the State Aid Bill for Libraries. We think only a word from you will be all that is necessary, merely for Glenn C. Palmer and William Medford to know that you want this support. You need not bother to explain to them what it means to Haywood county.

Had it not been for the state aid to county libraries the local library might not be open today, for it would have had to close its doors had not state aid been secured along with some county and other appropriations.

When we say that Mr. Palmer and Mr. Medford know what it means, we point out their interest in the local library. Mr. Medford is a former chairman of the Waynesville library, before it was taken over by the county and did a splendid piece of work in keeping it going on literally a "shoe string."

Mr. Palmer is a member of the present County Library Board and is well aware of what state aid does for our county system. But both men would like to feel that back home, you too, are anxious that this aid continue.

Our House To Your House

The issue of portal pay is getting into big figures and we believe it will not set so well with most Americans. A recent editorial in the New York Herald Tribune gave a pretty good picture of the issues, excerpts of which follow:

Current estimates of the total in back pay sought in the avalanche of the so-called portal-to-portal suits put the figure at close to \$5 billions. Of this, it appears from recent testimony of chief counsel for the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the government may have to absorb about 43 per cent in additional payment to cost-plus war contractors. No wonder then the Department of Justice is intervening as a friend of the court in the Mt. Clemens (Mich.) pottery case which precipitated the avalanche. The Supreme Court ordered a rehearing of this case before Judge Picard in Detroit to determine more exactly the "walking" time of the pottery employees for which, under the wage-hour law, Judge Picard, in 1943, ruled they should be compensated.

It will be recalled, perhaps, that the pottery workers, through their attorney, alleged that each spent fifty-six minutes a day on the employer's premises for which they should have been paid at time-and-a-half rates Judge Picard whittled this claim down to seven minutes and to a lump payment of \$2,400 to 239 members of the United Pottery Workers, affiliated with the Congress of Industrial Organizations. A tiny snowball for the nucleus of the present menace to the Treasury and private industry alike.

The point the government has made in its brief, handed to Judge Picard in this city Thursday and to be argued at hearings before him in Detroit next week, is simply that the case, on which hinges the whole portal-to-portal offensive, should be thrown out of court unless new evidence adds more weight to the pottery workers' claims for overtime pay. The basic principle involved is the "de minimis" doctrine which, translated from the Latin means, "the law does not concern itself with trifles." Divided among 289 recipients \$2,400 would afford each of them about \$8 apiece. Is this sufficient to engage the attention of the Federal District Court, a Circuit Court of Appeals and finally the Supreme Court of the United States?

It is not for a layman to say, but the Supreme Court in dealing with the case said: "We do not, of course, preclude the application of the de minimis rule where the minimum walking time is such as to be negligible." At the same time it said that time "necessarily spent by the employees in walking to work on the employer's premises" and in performing other preliminary duties there falls within the purview of the wage-hour act.

So there we have in a nutshell the issue on which depends a possible outlay of \$5 billions. What was it Mr. Bumble said about the law?

Winters

We read that New Englanders, not "basking in the sun" who are staying at home and are hovering over a bit of above zero weather are hearing from experts that "winters really are warmer now than they were in grandfather's day."

According to a General Electric Science Forum in Schenectady, N. Y., earth temperatures everywhere have been rising more emphatically since about 1920. They are claiming that the earth's glaciers are receding rapidly, especially in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. It is claimed that Russia's uprising in the world affairs coincides with the present rise in earth temperatures. It is claimed that this change has had an effect on Russia.

We relish the idea of warmer winters, but if it is "awakening of the giant in the North," and they become any more aggressive, we think we will take our same old weather.

So when we hear old-timers tell of the cold winters of days gone by, they are not telling us any tales of fantasy, but real facts, according to the scientists.

Welcome Back To Haywood

Bishop Paul Garber, who through his work for many years at Lake Junaluska is widely known throughout Haywood county, will speak here tomorrow night. Since he left his field of work at Duke University he has had a wide experience and will have much to tell us here, first handed of what is taking place in Europe.

The congregations of all churches and the public in general have been invited by the pastor to attend the service at which Bishop Garber will speak. We trust that they take advantage of the opportunity to hear one of our own native North Carolinians tell of his experiences.

CLOSED SHOP?



HERE and THERE

By

HILDA WAY GWYN

We can read of a great battle which gives staggering statistics of the hundreds who lost their lives and we are depressed and impressed, but let us hear a buddy tell about another or write in simple words his last stand as he faced the enemy in his struggle for you and me and it grips our hearts.

Private First Class McKinley F. Parton, son of Glenn Parton of Lake Junaluska, a Haywood county boy was reported missing back in September, 1944 and later he was declared dead by the government. We well recall writing the sad story—they were coming fast then. His father had longed like thousands of other parents to get in touch with one of his buddies who was with him and hear every detail of those last days—but only a couple of weeks ago was this realized and Mr. Parton heard from one of the men in his son's outfit—from Red Lion, Pa.

We quote from the boy's letter the story as he retold it to the father. "I am not much at writing a letter of this kind—and maybe some day we may be able to talk to each other in person, that would be much easier. I joined the 33rd Division, July 23, 1944 right out of St. Louis in Normandie, France. The very first night on the first line my squad leader, a man from Petersburg, Va. put me in the fox-hole in which your son and a man by the name of Wilson had dug in. From that night on your son and I became acquainted—and every time after that McKinley and I always dug our hole together."

"I enjoyed his company and I think he thought quite a bit of me. We knew when one was sleeping the other was guarding. We went through some of those heavy battles and always came out O.K. Then we joined an armored outfit of tanks—that was much easier—

Inside WASHINGTON

Lord Inverchapel Recalls
His Early Days in U. S.Truman Pre-'48 Strategy
May Put GOP on the Spot

Special to Central Press

WASHINGTON—Lord Inverchapel, the British ambassador, has no intention of returning to England before midsummer, at least. He is too busy reliving some of the times he enjoyed when, as a young embassy clerk, he previously served in Washington. Chatting a few days ago, he appeared anxious to visit Florida and several other places.

But uppermost in his mind is the thought of spring and watching the flowers he personally planted come to bloom. Then he wants to go to New England.

"I used to shoot whitetailed deer," he said. "I don't mind that, but I couldn't shoot a bear. It made me quite angry, for it was a beautiful bear. He was sitting there munching blueberries and I hadn't the heart."

He prefers, also, New England's hardwood trees as "far better than those eternal Christmas trees they have in the west."

The envoy's memory of good sport is to take a canoe to Harper's Ferry, toss it in the water and shoot the rapids down to Great Falls, just out of Washington.

"You can make it nicely in a weekend," he said. "Start Saturday afternoon and you are back in Washington Monday morning. But be sure to have at least an 18-foot canoe or you are liable to nose under in stiff rapids."

POLITICAL OBSERVERS ARE WATCHING President Truman closely for signs that his pre-1948 strategy might take the form of putting the Republicans on the spot by forcing them to make important decisions which they may be reluctant to make.

They noted that his termination of hostilities had all the earmarks of forcing the GOP to commit itself on several essential points—farm support prices, excise taxes and the Smith-Conally act. In his state of the union message, observers saw his references to demands for a balanced budget and debt-reduction in the face of Republican requests for lower income taxes.

Some observers think Mr. Truman will steer a middle course, waiting for the Republicans to make mistakes before he takes a stand for 1948.

FORMER REP. ROGER C. SLAUGHTER (D) of Missouri who was "purged" by President Truman last year, may accompany the House surplus property committee overseas as special counsel.

Sources close to the committee declared that Slaughter, who acted as committee chairman last year, would probably be asked to make the trip—after the adjournment of Congress this summer. The Missourian, who aroused the president's ire by voting against administration legislation, has returned to his law practice in Kansas City. It was not known whether he would accept the committee's invitation.

The committee, which is being reconstituted under the chairmanship of Rep. Fess Ritzley (R) of Oklahoma, is expected to concentrate this year on the disposal of billions of dollars in surplus property overseas.

DIPLOMATS HOUSED in the State Department building just across a narrow tree-lined street from the White House should be immersed in the problems of international policy. But about the corridors, talk centers rather on the removal of the oldest department of the government to Washington's "foggy bottom."

The die appears cast that most of them will move, including Secretary George C. Marshall and his aides.

President Truman says he wants the secretary State Chiefs of state to stay where he is, but White House moves May Leave Old

Mr. Truman has placed many special agencies in Quarters the State Department building, such as the Budget Bureau and the Atomic Energy Commission. Recently he has also ordered the offices of John Steelman, "assistant president," to be located there.

Newsman are disturbed about giving up the lush, carpeted, sound-proofed press room, built for them by former Secretary Stettinius. As one budget bureau inspector said on seeing the room, "All it lacks is a bar."

VOICE
OF THE
PEOPLE

Do you approve the principle of limiting the number of years which any one man may serve as President of the United States?

L. Z. Messer: "I think a man should be allowed to run for President as many times as the people will support him. If the voters want a change, they have the chance to make one every four years."

Mrs. Frank Ferguson: "That would depend upon the times and condition of the country, and the type of man who was President."

Glenn McCracken: "I think the time should be limited, except during war or a similar emergency, to no more than two terms for one man."

W. Boyd Owen: "I sure do. I think there should be a four year limit and no chance to repeat. The President will do his job then, and won't be worried about being re-elected."

Mark M. Ferguson: "Under normal conditions, I think two terms is enough. However I don't believe there should be a law limiting the number of years a man may serve."

Ralph Crawford: "I think that two terms should be the limit, except in a necessity. I'd rather have the unwritten law, as it is now, than to have Congress set a limit. The people will tell a President how many times he can go in, of-fice."

not so much walking. We had a rest for two days and got paid. That was the end of August, 1944. I can't remember, but any how on Sunday night we moved out to attack on Monday morning, which was to cross the Moselle River. We crossed OK and did not meet much opposition, dug in that night on a Rocky Hill, nobody dug very deep because of the rocks. As McKinley and I started to dig our hole the squad leader took me and another man and put us on the outpost maybe 50 feet away from McKinley.

Next morning the 137th Regt. crossed the river and routed a bunch of Germans which came right behind us. We had taken care of them when out of the woods ahead came one German half truck loaded with their Infantry. It was just about half daylight and some American soldier called out to them, he was about a block away in the light machine gun section. Right away they opened up and got two Americans. Then another truck came. We were shooting, but our bullets did not penetrate. (Continued on page 3)

Capital Letter

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

TELL THEM—Several highly controversial issues are now hanging before the Legislature—some of them of far-reaching importance. The solons want to work along with the "people back home" in arriving at their decisions on these matters. You have the liquor problem coming up again, likely, and the matter regarding separation of Fisheries and Game from the Department of Conservation and Development, teachers' pay (this has been settled only until July 1). Should tax-lusters continue to collect farm census figures? Should the State begin helping in the building of schoolhouses?

There are scores of questions facing your legislator. He is looking to you for help in finding the solutions to them. In most cases he is home for the week-end. In any event he can be in Raleigh in phone wire or personal call.

The Legislature is a propaganda from various groups—pressing—some from YOU. But he would appreciate it if YOU want, what YOU would appreciate it if YOU.

SURPRISES YOU would be the best of the political fronts in the State. The sports editors' best surprise for 1947 somebody to knock out for Notre-Dame's ball game. Biggest surprise of the year. (Continued on Page 3)

Washington Letter

By JANE EADS

DEADLETTER MAGAZINES LEFT BY ARMY SCORE HIT IN SIAM

WASHINGTON—The people in Siam hadn't seen an American magazine in five years. Then State Department officials in Bangkok, the Siamese capital, learned that thousands of bags of U. S. mail, most of it magazines, some of it newspapers, had been dead-lettered in Calcutta, India, when U. S. Army forces moved out and that this mail was going to be destroyed. They wangled 150 bags of the mail—five tons in all—and had it shipped to Siam. They set about to issue it, with the compliments of the U. S. Information to government offices, libraries, editors, and group of prominent private organizations. Assisting our people were about 20 of our friends. "Siamese princesses by side with their American official," and with university reporter, an architect, torney.



COOKING IN A KITCHEN SEEMS TO BE A TREAT IN GOTHAM

NEW YORK—Manhattan has its heart-warming occasions, although I'll admit they do not happen with wholesale frequency. At the Henry Hudson Hotel Manager John Paul Stack saw a white-haired couple in the dining room to whom the waiters and captains had taken a particular fancy. In process of which they'd learned the pair were celebrating their golden wedding. With courtly hospitality, Stack offered to toss an impromptu banquet for the couple, with the house supplying bubbly and potables of the frilliest sort. The lady refused, countering with the request that she be permitted to cook in the kitchen and prepare a meal exactly the same as the one cooked for her groom. That night the stepped aside while exact copy of the list, complete right down to the time in a good many several of the night. Stack too, all noble, fessional sentimentality seen using their hands wipe their eyes and noses loudly, almost. (Continued on Page 3)

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J. C. GALUSHA