

THE MOUNTAINEER

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TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 1948

Is American Family Life On Its Last Legs?

Is the American family system cracking up? We have had some alarming divorce statistics of late which would suggest an affirmative answer.

The threat to American family life was clearly pictured by Rev. W. Perry Crouch of Asheville in his messages at the Christian Home Clinic conducted by the Baptist here recently.

The 1946 divorce figures, of course, present a gloomy outlook for American home life. But fortunately the 1946 rate is not being continued, later statistics are showing and this fact should dispel some of the pessimism.

The Metropolitan's survey reveals that preliminary figures for 1947 indicate at least a 25 per cent reduction in the record-breaking divorce rate of 1946.

The new statistics seem to make it clear that the American family system is not yet on its last legs. But the encouragement should not be a cure for relaxation of efforts in family life training.

In one of his messages at the Baptist church, Mr. Crouch presented some revealing statistics that ought to show the way for a strengthening of family life in America.

A church background, it seems, means much in the success of marriage. Youth contemplating marriage would do well to recognize that churches, instead of resting on their laurels, should be so encouraged by their past contributions to stable family life that they will seek to be of even greater value in the future in guiding their people through successful married life.

It Made Good Reading

The platforms of some of the candidates are simply amazing, and yet, some are so amazing that they become pathetic.

Take the platform of W. F. Stanley, of Kinston, who announced and filed as a candidate for governor. He proposed open bars, better schools, \$3 license tags, bonuses for all veterans, better prison camps, and state institutions, and lower taxes.

After the million and a half state ballots had been printed, Mr. Stanley found his backers wouldn't put up the necessary finances, so he tried to withdraw, but alas, it was too late to get his name off the ballot.

If Mr. Stanley could have shown a practical way to have carried out his platform, he would not have had to have any financial backers. The voters of the state would have almost nominated him by acclamation.

Big Profits — Many Cases

Although the Asheville ABC stores have sold enough liquor since last December to realize \$133,000 profit to date, it has not put a stop to the operation of stills in the hills, as evidenced by the work of a group of Haywood deputies the other night, when a 55-gallon "copper" was cut down.

And according to the police record in the capital of Buncombe, there appears to be an unusually large number of cases brought before the bar of justice for violation of the prohibition laws.

Let's all resolve during the coming tourist season to do our utmost in every way to keep the town as clean as possible.

BUT ONE SWALLOW DOESN'T MAKE JUNE



Rambling 'Round

Bits Of Human Interest News Picked Up By Members—Of The Mountaineer Staff—

We all felt sorry for him but there seemed to be nothing we could do. He was his own worst enemy and had to take the consequences. It was the first one that always undid any good resolutions he might have.

Washington Letter. WASHINGTON — Lots of folks say they just don't understand art. Some of these folks are in the throngs that flock daily to the National Art Gallery to see the famed old masters from the Berlin Museums now on display.

Washington Letter. WASHINGTON — The tax drivers, government clerks, housewives, honeymooners, the school children, farmers say they don't quite "get the pitch," but they like the paintings. They crowd in groups before them. They look at the pictures a long time, as if they were trying hard to understand what makes them great.

Looking Back Over The Years

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Lee celebrate 50th wedding anniversary. 19 YEARS AGO Grace Dean is a 10th grade valedictorian of senior class. Mildred Crawford Phillips is salutatorian.

They'll Do It Every Time



MIRROR OF YOUR MIND



Are pictures more interesting than words? Answer: Yes, at least to most newspaper readers, reports Bert W. Woodburn in the Journalism Quarterly.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

What type of fishing do you like best?

Ernest Duvall: "Trout fly fishing. That's the best sport there is."

Jimmy Brackett: "I'd rather cast for bass than any type of fishing I've ever done."

D. F. Whitman: "I like to sit on a river bank holding a pole, with a good shade tree near by."

L. G. Elliott: "My kind of fishing is lake fishing, with an old time pole and red worms."

Roy Parkman: "Trout fishing, where you can keep moving and don't get impatient when the fish aren't biting fast enough."

L. N. Davis: "Fresh water trout is the greatest sport fishing of all. Lake and ocean fishing are fine, but I don't think either can beat our mountain trout."

Capital Letters

By THOMPSON GREENWOOD

EFFICIENT — Men who have some time to run for Governor should not fail to visit the Chamber of Commerce headquarters for a lesson in efficiency in organization.

Since Johnson is a very friendly, easy-going fellow, he has made friends through his long employment for the State. As a traveling auditor many years ago, he made contacts with clerks of court and other county officials in every county in North Carolina.

Inside WASHINGTON

Ike's Second Refusal Big Aid to Truman

WASHINGTON — Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's announcement through his close friend, Mr. Hoover, that he would refuse a Democratic presidential nomination was good news to politically astute observers.



Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower

GRIST FOR MOSCOW — The amendment given by the House to the Truman-Moscow agreement is a grist for the Moscow propaganda mill.

More important, it provides that Marshall shall receive no aid if he refuses to ratify an agreement on goods the United States has agreed to sell to the Soviet Union.

Some Capitol Hill observers believe that the amendment will result in its rejection from the joint conference session.

STALIN'S "NO COMMENT" — Rep. William Colmer, in telling friends on Capitol Hill that the Soviet Union has made an open bid to replace the national emergency law, is considered likely to win the support of many ever candidate they choose after making a campaign.

Political observers think Stassen may break with Taft, Dewey or Vandenberg, and have a chance of snaring some of the votes of the Republican Party.

Colmer said he extended the invitation to Stassen when he visited Moscow as a member of a special committee studying economic conditions in the Soviet Union.

Asked what Stalin replied, Colmer stated that he shrugged his shoulders. He didn't say anything.