

The Echo

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(Hope to carry list of department reporters later.)

CIRCULATION MANAGER—Kathleen Ricker.

A Day Of Dedication!

On Sunday, July Fourth, this great nation of ours will celebrate its 167th. birthday.

This year, in addition to celebration, the observance of Independence Day should take the form of dedication.

Since July 4, 1776, our country has grown from thirteen small, struggling colonies to one of the greatest nations the world has ever known.

To be free from tyranny and suppression, our forefathers braved an uncharted ocean to establish their homes in a new world where they might have individual freedom; where they might establish a government that would guarantee freedom of worship, freedom of speech, freedom of press and freedom of assembly. With great courage and determination, they established such a government and won their independence as a nation.

Today we are fighting on battlefronts on land, on sea and in the air, all over the world, to preserve that freedom which our nation has enjoyed for the past 167 years. Hundreds of our employees are in the armed forces. Over nine million of our nation's finest young men are in uniforms.

With the spirit of 1776 flowing through their veins, these men, many of them, will pay the supreme price in order that this and future generations may continue to enjoy the blessings of freedom.

Let's celebrate the glorious heritage that is ours and at the same time, let's re-dedicate ourselves here on the homefront to the great principles upon which our nation was founded and let's resolve to do everything we possibly can to speed the day of Victory.

To every one of Ecusta men in service, wherever you may be, we here at home salute you on this Fourth of July. We pledge that we shall not fail you; that we will buy all of the bonds and stamps that we can afford to buy; that we will co-operate fully with rationing and other wartime regulations; that we will aid in all war effort campaigns as we have done in the past; and that we will work harder and more efficiently.

Congratulations To The Times!

At the annual meeting of the National Editorial Association held in Cincinnati, Ohio, last week, The Transylvania Times was awarded second place in the general excellence contest among the larger non-daily newspapers of the United States. A New Jersey newspaper won first place.

Leading non-daily newspapers of the United States compete yearly for various honors at these conventions. Among the awards made are those for most notable community service, best front page, best editorial page and a number of others. The general excellence classification is considered the most important by newspaper men for in this division every quality of a newspaper that makes it outstanding is considered and evaluated. Incidentally, another North Carolina weekly—The Elkin Tribune at Elkin—won first place in the community service contest.

The Echo extends its heartiest congratulations to The Times for this magnificent honor. It should be borne in mind that there are around 10,000 non-daily newspapers in the United States and while only a very small percentage of them compete, it is true that only the very best are entered for publishers generally know that to win in any of these contests is an outstanding achievement. This award is not only testimony to the ability of the Publisher, Ed M. Anderson, as a newspaper man and a community leader, but also reflects the spirit of the progressive community which his paper serves.

Winning that award is also an honor for Brevard,

The Poet's Corner Beneath The Pisgah

TO "MOM" BY JIM NEWBURY

You've meant a million things to me
In all this war torn world,
You've stirred emotions in my heart
You've been my only girl.

When I was sick you cared for me
When I was sad you cried,
Although some things were hard to get
You did your best and tried.

There have been days of sadness
And days of joy and glee,
In this whole world, I can't express
The things you've meant to me.

Sometimes I have forgotten you
And all your deeds so true,
But in my heart, there'll always be
A place, Dear Mom, for you.

I could never repay you
For all the things you've done,
For all the happiness you've brought
The things for me, you've won.

I could never forget you
Forget that heart so true,
And always my ambition
Is to be, Mom, more like you.

Although your trials are many
And mine are very few,
There are three words, Mom,
please don't forget
And those are, "I love you."

A Bird Came Down The Walk

BY EMILY DICKINSON

A bird came down the walk:
He did not know I saw;
He bit an angle-worm in halves
And ate the fellow, raw.

And then he drank a dew
From a convenient grass,
And then hopped sidewise to the wall
To let a beetle pass.

He glanced with rapid eyes
That hurried all abroad,—
They looked like frightened beads,
I thought
He stirred his velvet head.

Like one in danger; cautious,
I offered him a crumb,
And he unrolled his feathers
And rowed him softer home.

Than oars divide the ocean,
Too silver for a seam,
Or butterflies, off banks of noon,
Leap, plashess, as they swim.

NATURE'S SWEET REPOSE

I wandered out alone one morn,
Down to the meadow green,
And there the sight that met my eye
Was the loveliest ever seen.

I could not turn my gaze away,
But stood awhile to view
The violets and the daffodils,
Still wet with morning dew.

I stooped to gather lots of them
Then thought it was a shame
To pluck them from the natural bed
For then their beauty I change.

I lingered on and looked at them,
Drinking in their fragrance sweet,
Thinking that when God made the earth,
He made it all complete.

—By Pearleen Blankenship

Transylvania County and North Carolina and we wish to commend every member of The Times staff. We are proud of you and of the distinction you have won.



Our Book Corner

"A good book is the best of friends, the same to-day and for ever."—M. F. Tupper

Mark Aldanov can be called the greatest Russian writer in exile. He has written THE FIFTH SEAL which is probably the most mature, as well as the most civilized, novel that has been written in Russian (Nicholas Wreden translated it) during the last two decades. It is entirely fresh in its approach; instead of picturing present Russia through Western eyes it presents a panorama of the modern world as seen through the eyes of Soviet officials. This book is a Literary Guild selection and has just been received by your library. You must not miss it!

"She was written about, photographed, interviewed and critized; she was the most gossiped about woman in Washington. She was no heroine, but a person you might have known, full of mistakes, good intentions, impatience, tenderness, moments of disillusion—" She was Mary Todd Lincoln — MR. LINCOLN'S WIFE. Read this fascinating biography by Anne Colver.

Do you love to feel the soft fur of a puppy? Do you get a kick out of having a dog around the house? When your dog cries, does something tighten around your heart? If your answer is 'yes,' we have just the book for you. It is a collection of dog stories—gay stories and sad ones, philosophical ones and shamelessly sentimental ones. THE FIRESIDE BOOK OF DOG STORIES has, according to James Thurber who wrote the introduction, "practically all the best pieces ever written about the dog." It includes stories by noted authors—O. Henry, John Galsworthy, Rudyard Kipling, Eric Knight, Jack London, R. L. Stevenson, Booth Tarkington, Albert P. Terhune, etc. This book won't take the place of a dog in the home but it is the next best thing. (Ask also at the call desk in the library for the "Dog Map of the World"—it is unique and interesting.)

For up to the minute news, you should make it a habit to read each week NEWSWEEK and TIME. From them you get "What's Behind Today's News and What's to be Expected in Tomorrow's," "News Front the Fighting Fronts," "News of the Nation," news on business, labor, and agriculture, science, books, radio, sports, music, movies, and the theater.

How much do you read? It is the patriotic way to keep informed and entertained.

The American soldier's average coffee ration is 40 cups a month.