

Publisher: Weekly By DAN TOMPKINS

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DAN TOMPKINS, Editor

The watch on the Rhine becomes an alarm clock.

Sylva and Jackson County need many small industries. That is the new way to prosperity.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS FORWARD

When one looks ahead, a quarter of a century seems a long period of time. But looking back upon it, one realizes that it is but a watch in the right when it is passed.

To be the oldest editor in this part of the State, in point of service with one paper, makes the writer seem an old man. Yet he is not. It seems but a few days back to his boyhood days at Webster, when he was going bare-foot about the fields and fishing in the Tuckaseegee in the summer and sitting at the feet of J. N. Wilson at old River Hill in the winter months.

The twenty-five years during which the writer has been the editor of the Journal have brought many changes in the county and the mountain country. Many of these changes have been real progress, others, can scarcely be classed as such. It is a fact that no one gets anything in this world without paying for it, one way or another. There is no gain without a corresponding loss. When a country or a community gains something it must lose something. Therefore, in computing the probable results of so-called progressive steps, it is necessary to count the cost and reckon whether the gain will be greater than the cost. Take it by and large, the county has gained much during that period.

When, twenty-five years ago, the writer assumed the editorial chair of the Journal, there was not a highway in the county, and scarcely a road worthy of the name. There was not a garage, automobile agency, filling station. It took a citizen longer to travel from Cashier's Valley or Canada to the county seat at Webster than is now required to make a trip from Sylva to Murphy. Electric refrigeration, radio, and many other items that are now commonplace in our lives were then unknown.

The only satisfactory way to travel to Bryson City, Waynesville or Asheville was by train, and the trains on the Murphy branch were crowded almost every day. Centralized schools and bus transport were unknown. Four months was the usual length of the school term. The county had no farm agent, and no home demonstrator.

But the germ of the great school system for the county was already at Cullowhee, for Cullowhee Normal and Industrial School had been established years before, and was already doing and had done a magnificent work, giving promise of becoming the College that it now is, and the greater institution that it is to become.

Shortly after assuming the guidance of the Journal the writer was offered positions elsewhere, with larger papers and a large field in which to work; but he chose to remain in his own country and among his own people. And the Journal began attempting to interpret the people of the county, their hopes and their ambitions for themselves and their county.

As such, The Journal ran into inevitable conflict with the opinions of certain of our citizens. No man and no paper that stands for anything can avoid that. But, week by week, year in and year out, this paper has stood for what it honestly believed to be the best interest of the county and its people, and with charity toward all, ill will toward none, the paper and its editor have espoused those causes that it believed would make for the betterment of the county, the State and their people.

We have come through many trials and tribulations. We have accumulated little of this world's goods. We have made lots of friends, and some enemies. We have had many days of worry and trouble; and many days and nights of labor. But we have also had a lot of fun, and it has been a real pleasure to serve you, our readers, our neighbors, and our friends.

If we have contributed anything to the good of the county and the State, we are glad. If we have wounded anyone in our zeal, or have done aught that may have harmed we are sorry.

At the beginning of another quarter of a century, we look forward to seeing greater progress made in the county than has ever been made before in the past. Progress like a snowball gains in size and in impetus as it goes along.

106 AT LAST

Of all the progressive steps that the Journal has advocated during the past quarter century, a paved highway through the county from Sylva to the South Carolina line has been the one upon which we have put most stress.

It was one of the first things that the Journal began agitating for. And we have been constantly at it, until now it appears that our dream is about to be realized. Highway Commissioner McKee, of this county, is authority for the statement that this spring will see the letting of the last link in this great highway to contract.

Twenty-five years is a long time to work an objective, and is a long time to wait for a dream to come true; but it is said, "all things come to him who knows how to wait" and Jackson County has certainly waited, with patience for the highway.

This will give us a great trunk-line highway through the county from the Southeastern Cities through Great Smoky Mountains National Park, to the middle west. It will be a highway of surpassing scenic grandeur, as well as the shortest route for travel through the Smokies.

It will open up the great upper section of Jackson County, than which here is no better trucking region in the country. The lack of this highway has held back the progress of the county. With its completion, we can confidently expect to see Jackson County and the town of Sylva go forward with rapid strides.

Our First Editorial

(Republished from Journal 25 years ago).

Upon assuming control of the Journal, it is expedient that we should set forth what the policy of the paper shall be. We will do all that is within our power for the upbuilding of our county and town, in every way.

Jackson county is by far one of the wealthiest counties in North Carolina, in natural resources. She has within her forests almost an inexhaustible supply of hardwood timber. Within the bowels of her hill lies dormant an untold wealth of clay, copper, iron, nickel, mica, and the precious metals. Her valleys are well nigh as fertile as the valley of the Nile or the Euphrates. Her crystal streams, as they hurry on their restless journey toward the sea, generate sufficient power, if harnessed, to turn the spindles of the South. Her magnificent scenery is unrivaled. Her matchless climate is superb. Jackson seems to be one of Nature's favorite children. In fact she has almost outdone herself in giving to us those things that are most essential and desirable to man's highest existence. These are ours, and it's up to us to develop and appropriate them to our use.

The Journal is working in the interest of the county. Your interests are our interests. Let us co-operate and give Jackson the place of pre-eminence which is justly hers, and make the Journal one of the best county papers in the State.

FROM JUDGE CLARKSON

State of North Carolina, Supreme Court, Raleigh,

Dear Mr. Tompkins

I just write to congratulate you on the Silver Anniversary Edition of the Jackson County Journal. A quarter of a century is a long time, and I can imagine the burdens and trials that you have been through in order to make this one of the finest papers in the mountain land.

With all good wishes, Sincerely your friend, Heriot Clarkson

MRS CRAWFORD CONGRATULATES US

Waynesville, N. C. March 24, 1938

Dear Dan;

I consider it a great feat to occupy the same "easy chair" for 25 years. And I join your many friends in offering congratulations.

The article in the Citizen this morning brought to mind memories of many years ago when your fine old grandfather accompanied my husband on his campaigns, and I always remember with pleasure your fine old grandmother too.

My kindest regards to your family. Cordially yours, Mrs. W. T. Crawford

TODAY and TOMORROW

(By Frank Parker Stockbridge)

ANTHEM a new one?

The main trouble with our American national anthem is that nobody can sing it. Nobody, that is, but Anna Case, the former operatic star who is now Mrs. Clarence Mackay. Voices

that can sing the low notes of the "Star-Spangled Banner" can't get the high notes, and vice-versa; and few people can remember most of the words.

I've been complaining about the "Star-Spangled Banner" for years, and now I'm finding people who agree with me that a national anthem should be, first of all, singable by everybody, that it should have words which convey a patriotic thrill, and that it should be truly national. Our anthem is none of those. "America" is simply American words set to the British tune of "God Save the King." "Dixie" is grand but sectional. At that it stirs northern audiences more than the standard anthem does, because the music has fire and "pep."

Anyway, two great musicians, a famous poet and the editor of a national magazine got together the other day and decided to offer some big prizes for the words for a new American national anthem. I may take a try at it myself!

WOOL new process

If the news that comes out of Russia is true, if soon will not be necessary for sheepmen to shear their sheep. Just give the sheep a dose of thallium acetate and it sheds its wool. That is the report made by Dr. N. A. Iljin of the Wool Laboratories of Moscow. Moreover, the thallium treatments make it possible to recover marketable wool from varieties of sheep which are now bred only for mutton.

Many ordinary varieties of sheep have two kinds of wool, a coarse kind called "kemp" which is of no value for spinning, and a finer kind mixed with it. Dr. Iljin reports that the thallium salts cause all of the wool to drop off the merinos and other fine-wooled sheep, but that by grading the dose he makes common sheep shed their fine wool while the kemp remains on the animal.

If this works out in practice it will give every sheep in the world an added value and ought to reduce the cost of wool.

STRAIN of thinking

When we use our brains we put a strain upon the whole body research experiments at Indiana University indicate. The popular notion is that brainwork is a "soft" job; that the muscles get tired only when one does manual labor. But it seems that is not true. The harder a man thinks, the more taut his muscles become, until after a day of hard study, intensive reading or the solution of difficult problems the ordinary person is as physically fatigued as if he had been at hard labor.

The old-fashioned idea that the human brain was only remotely connected with the body and that great intellectual geniuses are often, or usually physical weaklings is pretty well exploded. Some men of great mental powers have been frail of body to be sure, but they have usually died young.

In my own line of work, the ablest and most prolific writers I know are men and women of more more than average physical development, who find it important to keep their bodies fit. I notice as I grow older that I feel physically tired after a day's mental work, with muscles aching which I was not conscious of having used at all.

MAX still Burgomaster

One of the great heroes of the World War was Adolph Max, Burgomaster of the city of Brussels. Burgomaster Max's name became almost as familiar to American newspaper readers as that of any of the great generals. He took no part in the fighting, but at the risk of his life managed to maintain the civil government of the Belgian capital in the face of the German invasion.

Most people have forgotten Burgomaster Max. I know that I had, until I saw his name in the newspaper dispatch the other day, as heading the committee which welcomed former President Hoover to Brussels. The same Burgomaster Max—and still Burgomaster of Brussels, after nearly twenty-four years.

To me that points the difference between municipal politics in Europe and in America. Imagine, if you can, a mayor of a great American city holding office for 24 years, no matter what his record. I can't. We don't do things that way in America. We throw our best public officials out because some politicians want the job for their own gang.

WITCHCHAFT ancient wrong

It seems almost incredible that less than 300 years ago people believed so firmly in witches that men and women, chiefly women, were imprisoned or even put to death on the charge of having traffic with the Devil and casting evil spells upon other people.

The wave of persecution of "witches" was world-wide. Many so accused were hanged in the American colonies; in England and on the Continent of Europe many were actually burned alive! Civilized folk no longer believe in supernatural powers and manifestations and we leave witchcraft and its punishment to the blacks of Haiti and other savage countries, while we try to spolo-

gize for the insanity to our ancestors. TVA controversy the Tax Bill, the ton Beach, New Hampshire, voted at town meeting to erase from the town records the fact that Eunice Cole was imprisoned as a witch in 1656, to burn all documents relating to the case and to bury the ashes with the bones of the unfortunate woman in a suitable place, as amends for the injustice done her

278 years ago. If this serves to warn future generations against unfounded accusations and hasty mob judgments, it will be a gesture worth making.

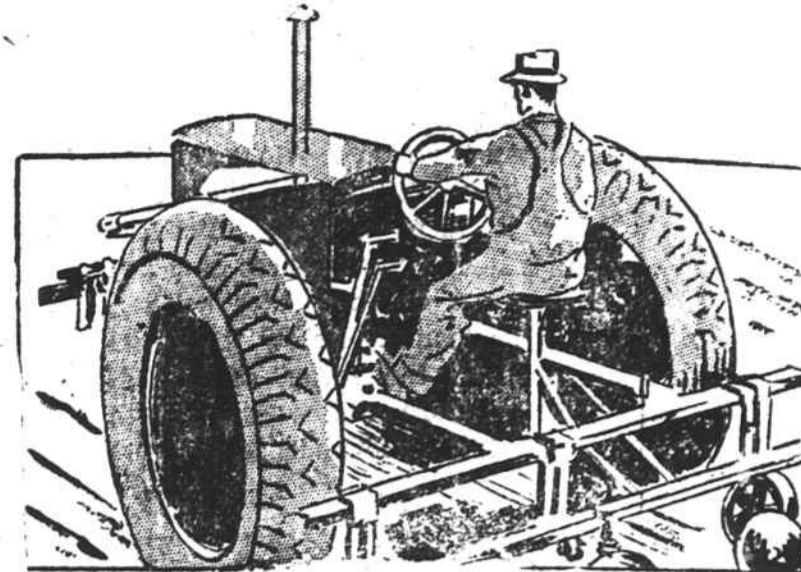
BALSAM

Mr. A. F. Arrington and family moved to Waynesville Tuesday. Mr.

Arrington is section foreman Southern R. R. there.

Mr. Charlie Bryson and moved to Waynesville Tuesday. Bryson works on the Southern also.

Mr. and Mrs. George and Mrs. W. E. Farwell Asheville Tuesday.



Allison Motor Company

We contribute our part to progress in Jackson county. We believe in our county--in its resources, and in its future.

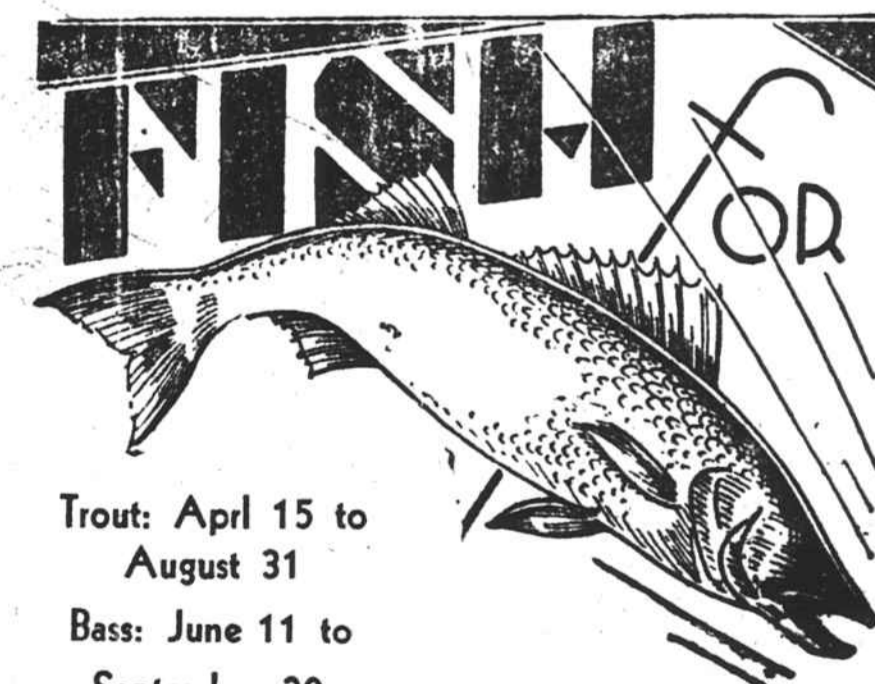
We serve the farmers---the motorists---the truck men, with high grade products to meet their needs

Puroil Products; McCormick-Deering Farm Machinery; Oldsmobiles; Auto repairing; Leonard Electric Refrigerators; International Trucks; Gasoline; Oil. Day and Night Wrecker Service

Central Service Station Shell Products

Day 'Phone 41 SYLVA Night 'Phone 42

CATCH THE BIGGEST



one of the following prizes to be given by us for the largest FISH caught during their respective seasons:

Trout: April 15 to August 31
Bass: June 11 to September 30

Largest Speckled Trout---Prize: HUNTING COAT

Largest Rainbow Trout Prize: 22 cal. WINCHESTER RIFLE No. 67

Largest Bass Prize: PFLEUGER TRUMP REEL

Size of winners to be judged according to weight. Any entry must either be brought to our store to be weighed, or be weighed by the Game Warden,

or one of his Deputies.

Contest open to anyone, except employees (or their relatives) of the Jackson Hardware Company

Jackson Hardware Company