The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1931

LOOK OUT FOR SLICKERS

[illegible]

RATTLESNAKES AND RELIGION

In these days when a mountain rattlesnake almost always Hits up the front pages of the newspapers we are reminded of the Methodist circuit rider and the rattlesnakes.

The story is as follows: A pioneer circuit rider went into a godless community where the Methodist were unknown, to preach and establish a church if possible. In that community was a wicked old mountaineer with four bad boys who were walking in the footsteps of their dad. This man and his boys decided that they would drive this Methodist preacher out of that mountain cove. Yet they had deep down in their hearts a genuine respect for the sincere, plain-spoken preacher.

Before a great while one of the four boys was bitten by a rattle-snake and was about to die. In their anxiety they sent for this same preacher to come and pray for the dying boy.

He came, notwithstanding the treatment he had received at the hands of the rough group of sinners, and kneeled down in the midst of the anxious family and prayed in this wise: "O Lord! we thank thee for rattlesnakes. We thank thee that thou hast sent one to bite this sick boy, and we pray thee to send one to bite Jim, and one to bite John, and one to bite Pete: and, O Lord, send one bigger than any of these to bite the old man, for nothing but rattlesnakes will bring this family to repentance. Amen and amen!"—N. C. Christian Advocate.

THE CONTEST OF THE HILLS

It is up to the mountains of Eastern Tennessee and Western North Carolina to "do their stuff." Delegations, representing the two states, have been heard by Secretary Ickes who now will decide whether the $16,000,000 Southern Appalachian Parkway, which will connect the Great Smoky Mountains National Park with the Shenandoah National Park, shall come southward through the North Carolina mountains or turn westward and enter the park on the Tennessee side.

Mr. Ickes declares that the job is one to produce a headache but that he will undertake to do justice since it is left to him to decide. He will not make his decision until after a visit to and inspection of the two routes suggested. It, therefore, will be for Grandfather Mountain, Mt. Mitchel, Mt. Pisgah, the Balsam range, the Craggies and other North Carolina beauty spots to primp for the inspection. And the mountains eloquently described by the Tennessee delegation must also put on their best bib and tucker.

If the parkway is to seek the most beautiful route, as it should, we feel sure that Mr. Ickes will give the preference to the North Carolina plan.—Spartanburg Herald.

HOW NEWS TRAVELS

Bad news travels with the speed of the wind and good news like a snail. Let a man be converted at a church service or perform some act of kindness and there is not much of a stir, but let him commit a crime and the news leaps by word of mouth from one end of the community to the other.

How thoughtlessly unkind we are sometimes when neighbors and friends meet with misfortune! Troubles are bound to come to us all in some shape or form and what we say about friends and acquaintances today may apply to us tomorrow. News is no respector of person.

We are prone to regard the ways of others in our ways when we should be watching our own step. What folks say of one another frequently hurts more than anything they could have done. News, especially bad, grows and becomes exaggerated and distorted and peddling. When the news is good it makes no difference what version is given to it. But bad news, given wings may bring sorrow and ruin upon people who are not deserving of a punishment beyond the penalty the mistake costs.

More charity for others will mean more charity for ourselves, and we will gradually [illegible]

—B. [illegible]

20 PER CENT FOR TAXES

[illegible]

This is more than is spent for food and [illegible] more than is spent for clothing and rent on homes combined. Careful estimates indicate that the average American family of income is spent as follows:

Taxes, 20c; food, 17c; clothing, 9c; rent, 9c; automobiles, 6c; fuel and light, 5c; household furnishings, 4c; insurance, 9c; medical attention, travel and recreation and the movies, about 2c each; tobacco and laundry, 1c each. This leaves about 19c for miscellaneous expenses and savings. These figures are averages, and very greatly according to individual incomes and spending habits.

Persons who own little or no property may imagine that they do not contribute much in the way of taxes, but it should be borne in mind that all taxes are finally passed on to the ultimate consumer of goods or services.

The nation's tax bill is now more than nine billion dollars a year, and the federal government, as well as many state and local governments, are still going farther and farther in debt. What the tax bill will be a little later can only be guessed, but it is sure to be much higher than at present if government spending on its present lavish scale continues.—Enterprise, Bastrop, La.

BUREAUCRATIC WINDOW-WASHING

A dispatch to The Times from Paris credits Le Matin with discovering why the windows of the ministry of finance, while regularly washed, appear never to be clean. The ministry itself, it seems, is directly responsible for washing on the inside. But washing on the outside falls within the domain of the ministry of fine arts. Both departments perform their duties with scrupulous fidelity. But since each works in independence of the other, both sides of the windows are never washed on the same day.

For the policy thus pursued in Paris there are parallels everywhere. Cases have been known in which one branch of a government has energetically promoted the declamation of arid lands, while another diligently destroyed crops growing in more fertile areas. There have been attempts simultaneously to raise prices and reduce the cost of living, as well as to raise wages and lower prices.

Theoretically, it would be possible for the ministry of finance and the ministry of fine arts to merge their efforts and arrive at a more consistent policy. But this would mark a surrender of department independence, as well as of deeply held convictions concerning which day of the week was best for washing windows.—New York Times.

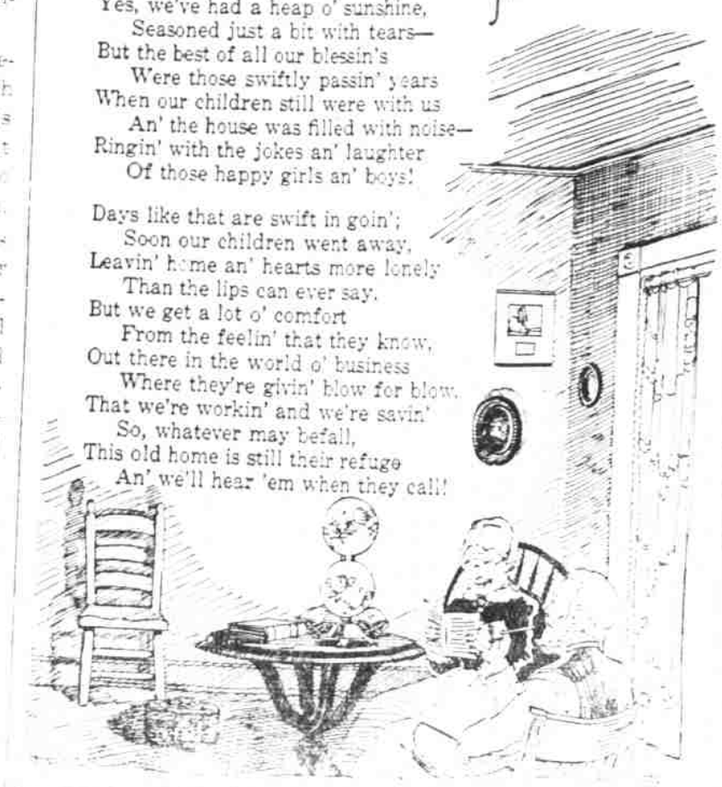
If the government continues to increase the size of postage stamps, they'll soon have to furnish a sponge with each stamp—'cause to lick the back of one of the big ones now is a mouth full.

Their Refuge

by Lawrence Hawthorne

Life has crowded many blessin's
Into years that we have known
Since the day my boyhood sweetheart
Said she'd be my very own!
Yes, we've had a heap o' sunshine,
Seasoned just a bit with tears—
But the best of all our blessin's
Were those swiftly passin' years
When our children still were with us
An' the house was filled with noise—
Ringin' with the jokes an' laughter
Of those happy girls an' boys!

Days like that are swift in goin';
Soon our children went away,
Leavin' home an' hearts more lonely
Than the lips can ever say.
But we get a lot o' comfort
From the feelin' that they know,
Out there in the world o' business
Where they're givin' blow for blow,
That we're workin' and we're savin'
So, whatever may befall,
This old home is still their refuge
An' we'll hear 'em when they call!



Random SIDE GLANCES

By W. Curtis Russ

[illegible]

A [illegible] was the answer. "I'm [illegible] me well. I'm making a [illegible] I want to site."

[illegible]

As soon as the patient who had been bitten by a mad dog learned that the doctor pronounced him fatally stricken with hydrophobia, he [illegible]

I haven't seen a pipe-smoking girl for several weeks, but I saw a [illegible] rarity for a summer family on a long [illegible] a [illegible] car. The many [illegible] was freckled arm also. That's the kind of hubbies that need to be [illegible]—maybe the [illegible]

A local man who [illegible] with much hard [illegible] he didn't pay the [illegible] for a hair cut but merely for [illegible] them.

Last week a [illegible] looking man walked in and wanted to know if I could run where Mr. Provoking Peter Hayes lived. At least that is what I [illegible] Now I never thought of that, but maybe "Provoking" is just as good a word as "[illegible]" [illegible]

Robert (Bob) McLean, pressman for this [illegible] in the following yarn where he got it I don't know, but it's pretty [illegible] if not original.

Georgia Negro (to Agent): I want two round trip tickets to Atlanta.

Ticket Agent: "Who is the other ticket for, Sam?"

G. N.: "My brother he died yesterday."

Agent: "But you won't need a round trip ticket."

G. N.: "Yaas, suh. You see we aren't [illegible] him in Atlanta but we [illegible] to bury him here, so we [illegible] to carry him down to Atlanta for de funeral service and bring him back than to bring all the family back."

Speaking of negro superstitions reminds me of the incident that happened here during the past two years when a couple were married while the mother of the bride lay a corpse in the undertaking establishment awaiting money to arrive for her burial.

Doyle Alley tells the yarn that a man in the depot in Washington stopped a member of the North Carolina Parkway delegation on the night of the departure and said: "Why the heavy load in the bag?"

The North Carolinian said: "Why, North Carolina is dry and we're just carrying home a few drams."

Washington man: "Yeah? And from the looks of things Washington will soon be dry."

I got this straight—the owner of liquor store nearest the place where the North Carolina delegation stopped declared his sales for the day were over $2,000—an all time record since repeal, he said.

Resident: "What kind of liquor have you got today?"
Bootlegger: "Block and tackle."
Resident: "Huh, that's a new [illegible]

22 Years Ago in HAYWOOD

(From the File of October, 1[illegible])

Hon. and Mrs. Felix Alley [illegible] the Fair Thursday.

Miller Young and Company [illegible] the contract to put in the [illegible] the new school building in W[illegible] where they to put in flues [illegible] Massie above town and [illegible] nutting.

[illegible] arrived Wednesday [illegible] Judge Long returned [illegible] home in Statesville. He will [illegible] in Jackson county next week.

Mr. Sam Felmet, of Atlanta, [illegible] here with his uncle, Mr. A. J. Felmet.

Editor Don Tompkins, of the [illegible] was here [illegible] attending the Fair.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Messer [illegible] have been this week taking [illegible]

Read The Ads

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