

**The Mountaineer**

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 24, 1935

**CHURCH ATTENDANCE IN WAYNESVILLE IS LOW**

Charlotte is rated as having the highest per cent of church goers in the state, according to population. The rate given the Queen City is 24 per cent.

That figure seemed rather small to be the highest in the state, but after figuring what per cent of people within the city limits of Waynesville attended Sunday School last Sunday we decided that Charlotte must be a "sure enough" church-going city.

The best we could find out was that not more than sixteen per cent of Waynesville's population attended Sunday School last Sunday—about one out of six.

From the figures supplied by church officials there were less than 450 in Sunday School—nearer 400.

The rural sections of the state are regarded the best church attendance, but according to our information it looks like the cities are leading the rural section in this respect now.

We inquired of one local pastor to what did he attribute this low percentage here, and he said: "More people are working on Sunday than ever before; more like to stay in bed on Sunday morning; and there is a scarcity of capable teachers that keep those who should attend regularly interested in the work."

Well, his explanation seems to coincide with the figures in every detail, therefore we'll refer to his statement again and say, therein is the trouble.

**PAY THE OLD FOLKS A PENSION AND SPOIL THE YOUNG**

The chief topic of the day seems to be about pension—and needless to say, it is an interesting subject, and one that can be argued pro and con with almost any group.

Right now Congress is being flooded with thousands of petitions to pass pension bills of some description or other, and there is little doubt in our mind but what a bill will be enacted whereby the federal government will appropriate \$15 when supplemented by a like amount by the states to all persons over 65 who are unable to be gainfully employed.

Now there are many old people who deserve pensions. They paid their taxes when younger and did their part in carrying on in their respective communities, but there are two draw-backs to paying pensions—not from the old people's standpoint, but from the young people's.

Many young people would no longer be ambitious to be thrifty knowing that when old age crept upon them that the government would care for him and his family with a mere pension. Then too, there are right now too many young people who sponge off their parents or grandparents on the Confederate pensions, which are paid twice a year.

If the payment of the pension to these old folks could be made so that the young ones could in no way share in them, then what would be more humane than to assure the old that their worries were over as long as they lived because the small amount given them would provide food and clothing?

**COUNTING WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS**

Waynesville's newest pastime seems to be counting widows and widowers, a new fad started by W. T. Shelton and Oscar Briggs last week.

Well, it is an interesting pastime, and perhaps one that calls for more thought than putting jig-saw puzzles together, or working out cross word puzzles.

**NATION'S HEALTH IMPROVES**

The health of the nation has not suffered during the depression, according to the Public Health Service, which credits this to the work of relief agencies and the absence of any widespread epidemic.

Figures released for the calendar year 1933 show the lowest death rate ever recorded in the United States, 10.5 per 1,000 population. Three new lows were recorded for tuberculosis, typhoid and diphtheria and only 40 deaths resulted from 7,000 cases of smallpox.

This is good news to most of us. It indicates the possibility of further advance along this line and may mean two or three years additional life to those who read this article. The fight on disease can be carried on in Haywood County without regard to what other sections of the nation decide to do and it might be well for us to see that effective work is continued here.

**"IF EVER I'M TEMPTED"**

We pause long enough to report that Richard Henschen, 24, of Chicago, wants to be finger-printed by the Department of Justice and have his identifying prints on file.

This young man very sensibly observes that "if ever I'm tempted to commit a crime, having my finger prints on record may deter me."

The chances are that Richard will not commit any crime because a young man who is so clear-headed in fortifying himself against yielding to sudden temptations is not apt to go wrong. He is wise in putting the odds against committing a successful crime because it does not pay and the psychological influence of the recorded finger prints will help him to "go straight."

It might be wise for some of the rest of us to follow his example and set up defensive works against the assaults of various types of temptation that constantly assail us. How much wiser we would be if we followed this example in whatever way might benefit and assist us in doing what most people want to do, "live right."

**CUT IT ENTIRELY OUT**

A bill has been introduced in the legislature already to knock out the absentee ballot law.

In spite of what efforts may be made to retain as it now is or to revise and remedy some of its defects in practice, there is no particular occasion to keep it.

As a matter of fact, it has been viciously prostituted and its integrity too generally nullified, we fear, to make it practical for a state that is insistent upon clean election practices to hold on to it longer.

Governor Ehringhaus has called attention to the legislature to the popular clamor for action in behalf of fairer and more honest elections and it is the inescapable duty of the party in control to follow the suggestion of every legitimate limit—and that would seem to call imperiously for the abandonment of the absentee ballot.—Charlotte News.

The walking marathon in Asheville came to an end Saturday night with the winning couple winning \$500 each for walking 65 days or 1560 hours without stopping.

For the number of hours the winners put in and the pay, it will figure about 32 cents an hour, and there are lots of people who will fuss about working eight hours a day for thirty-five cents an hour and have sixteen hours of each twenty-four for their own—what a world, or what some people will do.

If your Christmas jewelry has not turned green as yet, it will be reasonably safe for you to wear it in company.

Up to now we have not read anywhere where the mild winter was the result of Congress being in session.

There is one feature to the "counting widows" game that calls for tact that other games lack—that is if everyone participating had the trouble one man did when trying to list Waynesville widows. There was a certain woman whom he wasn't sure whether she was married or not, and did not know if her title was widow or old maid or grass widow. Because of her temperamental moods he dared not ask—therefore he lost a point.

Don't get mad if you are asked during the next few weeks: "Are you a widow, widower or grass widower, or even have an inclination of becoming either?" It'll probably be someone trying to beat the present record which lists 96 widows and 15 widowers.

This week this paper was asked, "To what do you attribute the vast difference in the number of widows and widowers?"

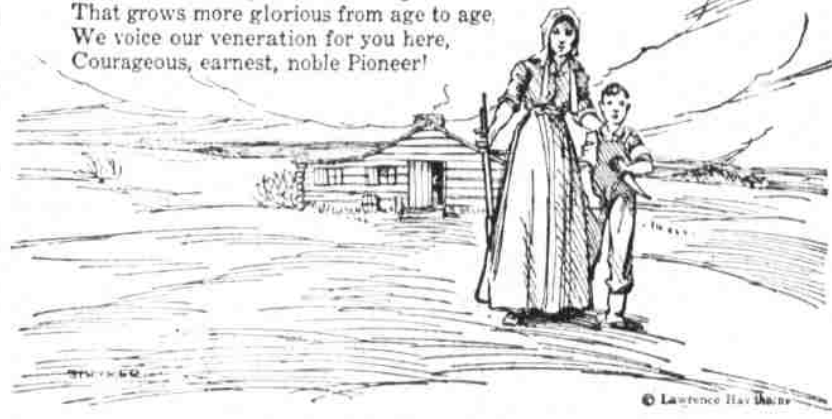
Your guess is as good as ours.

**To The Pioneer Woman**

by  
**Lawrence Hawthorne**

One hundred years ago, or more, or less,  
You braved the perils of a wilderness!  
You faced the hardships of a bleak frontier—  
Courageous, earnest, noble Pioneer!  
It mattered not that your heroic band  
Broke trail across a rugged, unknown land;  
It mattered not that danger and despair  
And loneliness were waiting for you there;  
It mattered not that you had left behind  
The comforts you could never hope to find;  
Your mother-heart was filled with faith and cheer,  
And life was good, for those you loved were near.

Yours was the spirit humble, brave and free  
That guided well a nation's destiny;  
Yours was the fortitude and wholesome grace  
That made a cabin joy's abiding-place;  
Yours was the charm and noble strength of soul  
That ever sought a better, higher goal!  
And we, who are your sons and daughters, pay  
Our tribute of esteem to you today;  
Rejoicing in that priceless heritage  
That grows more glorious from age to age,  
We voice our veneration for you here,  
Courageous, earnest, noble Pioneer!



**Random SIDE GLANCES**

By W. CURTIS RUSS

On a certain door on Main street the word private is spelled "privet." I don't know whether it was put that way for fun or not, but it has aroused my curiosity.

**HERE'S SCANDAL**  
The Waynesville church official who was a looker-on (?) at a crap game until four a. m. Thursday morning attended church Sunday and did not even nod during the sermon—what a man. The name of this man will not be disclosed—as I found out about the incident by the slip of his own tongue, and I'm not going to get him in Dutch.

Down in South Carolina there were two signs at a crossroads, one pointed towards the ground and the other towards the sky. Now whoever did that funny thing should have had to drive ten miles out of the way over the muddy road—things like that cease to be funny when expensive to someone else.

It seems that my squib last week about the preacher has aroused considerable curiosity—I'm sorry.

Last week members of the Rotary club agreed to take a piano from the top floor of the Methodist church to the basement to be used in their meetings. A call was made for "strong backs and weak minds" and we all heeded the call. I have always made it a practice to carry the bench when a piano was being moved, but this time there was no bench so I had to just look on.

Outside of Dan Watkins, there were no casualties—it seems that Dan was pushed up against the wall and had to walk that way, and when the crew reached the bottom step it was found that Dan had rubbed too hard against the wall all the way down—so the Rotary Club is likely to get a bill from Dan for a new pair of pants.

Not that it matters, but it will be September before we will have a Friday the thirteenth, . . . and another in December. . . and Valentine's day is on Thursday, so is the Fourth of July—Memorial Day—Thanksgiving—Hallowe'en—and my birthday. On Monday will fall labor Day and Armistice Day.

The best yarn from the newspaper field to come my way in some time was told by an editor who was having trouble in keeping his rival paper from printing news taken from his paper. One day a clipping was taken from his newspaper and the printer in the rival shop turned the clipping over when he set the type and instead of setting the news item as intended, he set the editorial column that had appeared the week before in the other paper. The error was caught when the paper was off the press. Imagine the look on both editors' faces when they met—one embarrassed and the other tickled pink.

Things that will never happen: Zeb Curtis becoming a yodler—Chrest George not looking like a wrestler—Dr. J. R. McCracken driving slow—W. L. Lampkin not ready for a fish or bear story—Ernest Withers in politics—Tom Lee, Jr., becoming grouchy—Wilford Ray turning down chicken gizzards—William Medford taking short steps J. R. Morgan passing a lady without tipping his hat—Uncle Abe being satisfied if he's not pestering me. . .

**FARMER COLLECTS TOLL**  
Chicago.—Because officials failed to get a proper right-of-way deed, Henry opened a road a new highway, charging motorists ten cents each to use the road and a new \$500,000 and-erpass. The farmer and his sons, with shotguns stood guard over their property.

**PARIS BANS U. S. DANCER**  
Paris.—Joan Warner, 22 year old platinum blond from the United States was prevented by police from staging a nude dance in a Parisian restaurant.

**ROCKEFELLER'S OIL HOLDING**  
Washington.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., reports to the Securities Exchange Commission that he holds stocks valued at around two hundred forty-five million dollars in three oil companies. His holdings include 1,872,528 shares in the Standard Oil Company of California; 2,743,122 shares in the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey, and 2,000,000 shares in the Socony Vacuum Company.

**BLACK-DRAUGHT For CONSTIPATION**  
"I am 71 years old and have used Theodor's Black-Draught about forty years," writes Mr. W. J. Vanover, of Rome, Ky. "We are never without it. I take it as a purgative when I am bilious, dizzy and have swimming in my head. Black-Draught relieves this, and helps me in many ways." . . . Keep a package of this old, reliable, purely vegetable laxative in your home, and take it for prompt relief at the first sign of constipation.

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Our policies in operating this institution have always been governed by the fact that Pharmacy, like Medicine, is a profession. To make any sort of concession in an attempt to appeal to people's "trading" instinct, seems to us just as much out of place in one as in the other. Alexander's solicits your patronage on the basis of highest quality drugs, skillful compounding, and quick dependable delivery. These are our only inducements—but they are priceless to you.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR  
**ALEXANDER'S DRUG STORE**  
Phones 53 & 54 Opposite Post Office

**24 Years Ago in HAYWOOD**

24 YEARS AGO  
Mr. G. N. Henson has returned from Mangum, Okla.  
Mr. Jarvis Coman was here on Tuscola Saturday.  
Mr. D. M. Cagle of City was Monday in the city.  
Mr. Paul Rockwell who has been the guest of Mr. Jack Way has returned to Asheville.  
Miss Mary Davis is taking a business course at Shockley's Business College in Asheville.  
Miss Lula Ferguson of Greensboro visited friends here last week.  
Miss Georgia Miller has returned from Asheville where she has been the past ten days.  
Miss Carrie Sue Adams accepted a position with Mr. J. Noland in the Register of Deeds.  
Mr. Robert Howell of Jones Creek was in town the first of the week.  
Mrs. D. A. Baker left Tuesday for a visit of several weeks with relatives in Wadesboro, N. C.  
Mr. Charlie Tull has returned from Waynesville and accepted a position with the McIntosh Drug Company.  
Mrs. G. D. Green has returned to a visit to relatives in Media, Pa.  
Mr. W. C. Colle spent Monday in Waynesville.  
Mrs. W. C. Allen entertained members of the Missionary Society of the Baptist church Monday afternoon. The entire lower floor was thrown together and prettily decorated with potted plants. Music and reading by the different guests were greatly enjoyed.  
The Sew-Sow Club had a pleasant meeting with Mrs. James Atkins on Monday afternoon. After supplying the needle for an hour or so the hostess served a salad course among the guests were Miss Virginia Jones, Miss Jessie Adams, Mrs. G. C. Platt, Mrs. Margaret Ashford, of Atlanta, Miss Satterthwait, and Miss McFarland.  
Among the people who attended the performance of "The White Sash" in Asheville on Wednesday night were Mr. and Mrs. James E. Carraway and J. W. Norwood, Mrs. G. C. Platt, Miss Jessie Rogers, Miss Lillie Satterthwait, Miss Fannie Burr Hill, and Mr. E. L. Withers.  
At a meeting of the Waynesville Athletic Club on January 21, it was decided to organize its members into four teams of basketball, tennis and healthy athletic sports to develop the body and keep it in proper health. The league will start about the first of February.

**Job Printing**  
EXPERT WORK  
The Mountaineer  
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