

**The Mountaineer**

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THURSDAY, APRIL 11, 1935

**INTERESTING HISTORY IN THE MAKING**

Representative J. T. Bailey seems much disturbed over the attitude of some people towards his voting against the bill which would make the appropriations for the state school system almost three million dollars in excess of what the revenue bill provides.

The Haywood Representative takes the position that it would be unfair to lead the teachers to believe they would get more than it would be possible to pay under the present revenue set-up. At that, Mr. Bailey evidently is right. Broken promises, especially when salaries are involved, are things that should always be avoided.

Without having studied the matter thoroughly, it is easy to say that the bill should be passed as outlined by the schools, but on second thought under present conditions it looks doubtful if such a thing could be done.

We will all have to admit that with the teachers and patrons of the schools requesting one thing, and the revenue bill coming up three million short with which to do it, that the members of the Assembly are in a tough spot.

Unless we miss our guess, the teachers will have to be satisfied with the increase already voted, and look to the legislature of 1937 for the balance of their requests.

—But this must be remembered the state is watching closely the movements of the pros and cons on the Hill Liquor bill, which is said would raise the sufficient revenue. Some mighty interesting North Carolina history is right now in the making.

**OUR ZEAL MOCKS US**

North Carolina's starved institutions have now reached the point where their resistance to the effects of restricted budgets is breaking down and daily they cry aloud for remedying of the ills which beset them. The prisons and the reformatories and the schools, all alike, are asking for sympathy plus.

The Morganton insane asylum is, at the moment, uppermost in its lamentations, displaying defects which may be cured only with increased appropriations.

Reports of over-crowded conditions and consequent lack of effectiveness in some of the reformatories is another instance. The condition of the school system and that of the University calls for monetary remedy.

Yet, North Carolina in the sober judgment of its selected representatives has done its level best for these causes. No less than they has the commonwealth suffered from the depressed times. We sometimes wonder if in our eagerness to do good we are not again about to attempt to do more than we are able. —Charlotte News.

**GOING FORWARD VIA EDUCATION**

An encouraging piece of news for this county, is the fact that there are 156 Haywood students slated to graduate this month, outside of the Canton schools.

The increase in the number of graduates over all other years shows a marked increase in interest in education, and where there is a marked increase in education, there is a healthy sign of progress.

As a town, county, state or nation, we cannot hope to go forward more rapidly than our citizens become educated, and the fact that the number of graduates from our high schools each year is increasing gives ample proof that we are going forward in no uncertain terms.

**FORTUNE TELLERS**

The number of fortune tellers operating in this country is a revelation when considered in the light of common sense. Their chief habitats are in the larger cities but many stop in the smaller towns to ply their grafting upon the citizens of the community who are gullible enough to fall for the wiles of the fakers.

The curiosity of nearly all people about what the future holds in store for them is intense and candid. In various ages, seers have been lifted to the heights among the elect of the realm, or burned at the stake as allies of the devil. Much seems to depend on the personality of the fortune teller. If she—or he—is endowed with a lively imagination, a keen interest in pleasing people and shrewd knowledge of human nature, the establishment of a following, or even a cult, is not difficult.

As to the faker, whose stock in trade is a general public interest in fortune telling, such as is now rife in the country, and a knowledge that some people seek out all the schools and many practitioners in each to verify the reading and explore all phases of the future, the only effective method of regulation is by law or ordinance.

The clandestine fortune teller risks a modified form of the stigma once attached to witches, and usually is restrained by the furtive nature of the calling. The cult leader frequently operates under a guise of religion which checks the interference of the law, but either are equally dangerous to a community and should be squelched whenever possible for the good of all concerned.—Ex.

**THE WISE GUY**

You know the jay-walker—in fact, you've probably burned your tires at one time or another in avoiding him. He crosses the street wherever and however he pleases. He takes intersections on a diagonal. He's never content to follow the regular path. He thinks he's saving time. But is he? The dodging, jumping and backing used up more time than it would have taken to follow the regular path. And he is taking a needless risk.

Mr. Jay-walker has a brother—the jay-buyer. Although not a product of the depression, his numbers have increased many fold since the country lost the formula for Sanforizing the family income. Today his numbers are legion.

The jay-buyer knows a way to buy things cheaper. He knows of a man from whom he can buy radios at half price, or a small mail-order house that will sell to him at wholesale prices. His favorite pastime is telling his friends what suckers they are and how much money he could have saved them had they only come to him before furnishing their new home or buying a car.

He thinks he is saving money, but somehow or other he just cannot make his income go as far as his acquaintances who read the advertisements and buy standard goods from reputable merchants whose guarantee stands for something.—Times, Hammond, Indiana.

**CHANGING DATES**

A resolution to strike from the state flag the date of May 20, 1775 and no longer to celebrate that date as the day of the signing of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence was introduced in the house recently by Representative R. T. Pickens of Guilford. Properly enough, his resolution was tabled, but good Mecklenburgers were horrified.

Mr. Pickens' bill wasn't, though, quite so historically sacrilegious as to demand the utter abandonment of Mecklenburg's patriotic celebration. He suggested that the date of May 31, which he says is historically accurate, be substituted.

Historically, he may be right, for all we know. Archibald Henderson and other well-read gentry have cast some doubts before this on the date of that declaration. But let it stand at May 20.

We might just as leave change the date of celebrating the American Declaration of Independence, for the declaration was not signed on July 4—Believe It or Not.

The Continental Congress, meeting in Philadelphia, ratified the resolution on July 3. It was signed in round-robin fashion throughout the following summer by delegates who affixed their signatures whenever they could overcome the hardships of travel to get to Philadelphia. The signatures were not complete until at least a year later.

But what matters? The main thing is to have a date, celebrating not a definite act, but a great spirit. We might as well abandon the date of December 25 because, as the seminaries well know, it is a far from accurate guess at an exact date.

May 20 means something to North Carolina, and the persons who would change it for the sake of a few days historical accuracy are bookkeepers, not historians.—Cleveland Star.

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A SHERIFF'S SALE IS LIKE  
A DRUNKARD'S PARTY  
Both are a blot  
on the community  
**SHERIFF'S SALE**  
Your town needs all your business

**Random SIDE GLANCES**  
By W. CURTIS RUSS

Have you ever thought of how foolish you would feel to walk up to a lady and say, "My Dear Mrs. So-and-So" . . . yet we don't hesitate to put the same thing in writing, which is a record.

A great public man once said that the best way to stay out of trouble was, never to tell a woman a thing, or put anything in writing.

If by chance you didn't see the story in the Prison News that has caused so many smiles over about the court house, get it from T. J. Cathey or Grover C. Davis.

Dr. McKay, the fishing druggist, of Hazelwood, has returned from sunny Florida with a good coat of tan and some excellent fish stories.

Dr. Stuart Roberson, of Hazelwood, tells a good one about two Jews. It seems that Ike had a famous race horse, and Abe offered him ten thousand for the horse. The trade was made and that night the horse died, but Ike cashed the check the next morning before making known the fact that the horse had passed on.

He realized that sooner or later he would have to pay back all the money, but Abe seemed to ignore the fact that the horse had died and he was out ten thousand. This got next to Ike's conscience, so he brought the matter up one day, when Abe said: "Oh, dots all right about the horse. You see, I knew lots of people would love to have him, so I sold 25 raffle tickets at \$500 each."  
"But," said Ike, "don't they complain about getting a dead horse?"  
"Just yun . . . the winner and I gif him his \$500 back, and you see I made two more thousand dan I paid you."

It's just about this time of year that little boys think their parents haven't got one bit of judgment because they won't let 'em go bare-footed . . . now honestly, didn't you feel that way once?

About the cutest thing I've seen in many a day happened on Main street last week when a little girl about seven adjusted a certain pin in her little two-year-old brother's clothing. Her act kept him from being guilty of what the law calls: "indecent exposure."

Wish someone would fill the hole on the lot next to the office which was dug to get a gas tank out . . . it looks like a grave for an elephant.

Representative J. T. Bailey makes the "H" in his name exactly one and three-quarter inches high, and the "T" and "B" are together . . . the signature is quite unique. . . .

People who write left-handed look like they are in a strain.

Do people who have an expression that looks like they will start crying any minute have to look like that?

It must be fun to walk around the street eating cheese and crackers out of a poke.

I bet you that half of the people here the first Monday didn't have any business in town. . . .

Not long ago I wrote about the conversation between the two front doors of the court house . . . that seemed a little far fetched then, but now they are really bright. . . . Bob Ray has been using elbow grease for three days on them. . . .

I never hear of a magician but what I think of a yarn, when many years ago a magician was a novelty in the rural communities, that at a performance the slight-of-hand man read a newspaper after being blind-folded and having a two-inch plank laid on the paper.

An old woman in the back of the audience rose and said: "Excuse me please, this ain't no place fer a woman with just two petticoats on."

Things they enjoy doing . . . Hugh Massie, smoking cigars. . . . W. T. Denton, discussing fishing. . . . Charles E. Ray, working for Chamber of Commerce. . . . Dr. O. T. Alexander, making people feel at home. . . . L. M. Richeson, boosting Hazelwood. . . . Dr. S. P. Gay, playing golf. . . . W. L. Lampkin, fishing. . . . Sam H. Jones, seeing the town cleaned. . . . Jack Messer talking schools. Theo McCracken, drinking coffee. . . . Uncle Abe and The Rambler, getting my goat. . . .

**24 Years Ago in HAYWOOD**

(From the files of April 7, 1911.)

Henry C. Osborne, of Clyde township, raised 101½ bushels of corn on an acre at a cost of \$29.

The board of commissioners, composed of H. A. Osborne, A. Howell and W. H. Henderson met Monday. A number of orders were made to have the superintendent of roads improve some of the leading roads in the county.

A large delegation of Southern Railway officials will arrive Sunday to look over the Chataqua situation here.

The Waynesville undertaking company organized, with C. G. Logan, Harry Rotha and Davis Ray as owners.

Miss Althea Allison and Mr. Earl Ferguson were married Sunday morning, April 2, at the Methodist parsonage at Dellwood.

The Friendly Dozen club met with Mrs. J. W. Seaver last Thursday. This was the last meeting of the club before disbanding for the summer.

Hon. W. T. Lee spent the past week in Waynesville. He is expected to return to Raleigh any day.

John Shook, of Clyde, was in the city Monday.

Dr. Sam Stringfield went to Asheville Monday.

Mrs. D. A. Baker has returned from Wadesboro where she spent an extended visit with relatives.

**ARMIES**  
WASHINGTON, D. C.—In 1912 Britain alarmed at Germany's military strength sent her War Minister to Berlin. He tried to persuade the Kaiser to call off the armament race. Germany's answer was to add a hundred and sixty thousand men to her army of six hundred ninety thousand. France with seven hundred and twenty thousand in armies promptly extended the time of compulsory military training. In 1914 came war. In 1935 Britain is again alarmed.

**NEW YORK CITY**—Mrs. John Sjoberg drew a pistol and fired four shots at her husband. He ducked under the stairs unhurt. Mrs. Sjoberg told New York police she didn't want to kill him. She just wanted to wound him so she could have the pleasure of nursing him back to health.

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**Letter To The Editor**  
Editor The Mountaineer:  
The time approaching for the election of a governing body for the town of Waynesville, I am sure the officials are anxious to get the town into a better financial condition. As a citizen and taxpayer of Waynesville, I can assure you that the consideration before the voters should be the financial condition of the town. There has been a steady decline in the financial condition of the town in the home paper. The town has expended. Taxes in Waynesville are tremendously high. The town is a serious burden on the pockets of every taxpayer.  
Speaking for myself, I ask the members of the governing body to give us an account of their stewardship. They should give a statement of income, showing the source and of expenditures. It is to be paid for what purpose money was paid out. Let them also give a list of town employees with the salary paid each. When this information is published, the taxpayers will know something about their public affairs.  
E. W. GUDGER

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(Signed)  
R. J. REYNOLDS TOBACCO COMPANY  
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