

The Mountaineer
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DISREGARD FOR PUBLIC PROPERTY

As a general rule, the public has little or no regard for property. Some take it for granted that they can do as they please with it, since it is for the public.

What we have in mind is the carelessness of some who attended the opening of The Park Theatre on Christmas. After the show, it was found that matches had been thrown on the expensive carpet in the lounge room. Probably the matches were not, any way, it just shows that some disregard the golden rule when it comes to using other people's property.

The management of the theatre has not mentioned the incident to us. This is of our own knowledge that such things did happen.

Not only has the theatre suffered damage done by people who are thoughtless, but every other building in town to which the public has access. The court house, until recently, bore marks on the walls that indicated the building was ten years old, whereas it is only three and a half years old.

The Masonic Temple has received its share of rough treatment along with the others. About the only place that we know of where the public has a little respect for the building is the post office, and probably this is accounted for by the fact that a man is almost constantly on duty in the lobby keeping an eagle-eye for persons inclined to damage buildings.

It is time to change our ways if we are such a person, or some day it might get to the extreme that the managers of the buildings will begin action, and make it hard on someone.

FORTY-EIGHT YEARS OLD TODAY

Today's edition of The Mountaineer marks the beginning of the 48th year which this paper has been serving the county.

It is with much pride that the present publishers look back on the 48-year record and find the position the paper has taken in the community.

In looking over the files of the past we find that the present paper is larger than ever before, and is carrying more features and news. We say this as a matter of record and not in a boasting manner, although we are proud of the record.

The circulation, which is paid, and secured by means other than high-pressure campaigns, is the highest of which we have any record.

And as this makes the 48th birthday of the paper, we are taking this opportunity of promising the "best paper we are capable of giving for the years to come."

COLD WEATHER WELCOMED (?)

While the cold weather of last week has been disagreeable to many, it has pleased the farmers in that they look on extended cold weather of this nature as a sure way of killing bugs and insects that cause untold damage to crops each year.

From some leading farmers, we learned that long spells of cold weather were certain death to the destructive bean beetle.

This winter has started off similar to the winters of long ago, when snow stayed on the ground from early December to late February, but if the bean beetles and other pests which cause much damage to farmers are killed, it will be worth all the cost of discomfort, even to those of us who are not farmers.

Our idea of a perfect imagination is when one can look out on the snow, believe it is August sunshine, and begin to perspire.

BUSINESS SHOWS INCREASE

A general survey of the business houses of this community showed that a general increase in business was noted during the Christmas rush over the volume of last year.

On every side we have heard of families that stayed at home to do their Christmas shopping. One family reported that it was the first time in many years that every item for Christmas was bought here in this community. There are many other families that did likewise, we have been told.

There is no doubt but what conditions in general are far better than they were last year, yet at the same time we cannot but feel that the "Trade-At-Home" campaign staged by the Chamber of Commerce added much to increasing the holiday volume of business.

PUBLISHING THE RECORD

County and town officials this week are giving reports of current expenditures that for the past several years have not been published.

Each year when the annual tax rate is fixed there are many tax payers who look at each other in amazement as to why such rates are necessary to carry on the local government units. Many a candidate for the various offices has made promises of reducing expenditures because they did not realize just what was necessary to carry on the business of the town or county.

The two statements published in this week's paper should tend to clear such wrong conceptions. The county is giving in detail every voucher issued by them during the past 12 months, the amount, and for what it was paid.

The statement of the town shows under each department just what expenditures were made, and the balance in each department, whether surplus or deficit.

For several years we have kept an ear to the ground, so to speak, and are confident that this bit of information will be welcomed by the taxpayers of the county and town more than any official statement in many years.

CONGRATULATIONS, MR. ALLEN

After about five years of tedious and painstaking efforts, W. C. Allen is delivering his 650 page "Annals of Haywood County" which is a credit to both the author and the county.

Mr. Allen has filled a need in the county's literature field that few counties have. He has given the county something worthwhile, whether they appreciate the amount of time, hard work and financial undertaking the publishing of such a book demands or not.

The book is complete in every detail, and will be one that will be read and re-read for many years to come by citizens of this county.

He is to be congratulated for "seeing it through," and the high standard of the finished product.

NEW DOORS OF OPPORTUNITY

Last mid-night the old door of 1935 closed, and the year of hundreds of events, the work of many hands and which filled the Christmas of thousands of hearts and minds with the merry shouts of innumerable crowds of watchers the old door closed—forever!

But with the last stroke of twelve, the new door of 1936 swung open wide, and not only one door but many doors, doors of opportunity we call them that lead to all the avenues and open to all the possibilities and opportunities of life. News doors of opportunity because the things we did not fully accomplish during the old year just past are still out to pursue—and to bring into full fruition, and because there will doubtless be doors opened for us during 1936 that have hitherto been closed.

Great advances have been made during the past year in science, astronomy, aeronautics, exploration, political economy, surgery, sound transmission—what not. Yet science is not nearly satisfied, and inventive genius marches on toward greater perfection. Marches on, but humbly so, because science knows that there are stars, satellites—perhaps planets still undiscovered. The lens for a telescope 200 inches in diameter is now being ground at the California observatory, and when finished, it is claimed this great "eye" will enable man to see millions of miles into space. This will doubtless bring into view many stars and it may be, whole solar systems as yet undiscovered.

Yet, if the sun is 93,000,000 miles distant from our earth, the proportion of the known to the unknown in astronomy will perhaps still be relatively small.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science (the name is quite long enough) met yesterday in St. Louis and reviewed for the first time more than a score of the recent outstanding discoveries in the field of radio, sound-transmission, electricity, physics, surgery, etc. Here are three or four of them for example:

Radio broadcasting of a fac-simile of a San Francisco newspaper to the General Electric Co. at Syracuse, N. Y.—across the continent—before they could get the paper on the Frisco streets.

Conversion of light into sound and vice versa by means of a photo-electric tube—what ever that is.

Popping of corn in a common water glass by means of high frequency radio waves which do not heat the glass but merely "raise the devil" with the moisture in the corn, popping it while you wait.

Study of the human brain by wiring it electrically.

We wonder at what has already been accomplished, and often hear people say that surely man cannot go much further into the realms of science, invention and discovery; yet, great as these inventions and discoveries are, they are perhaps only a small part of what future generations will see.

So, realizing that we—even the most learned of us—know so very little of the known, and, furthermore, that the undiscovered and unknown in this world is perhaps greater than the known—

Let us approach 1936 conscious of our extreme littleness—a mere speck—in the great universe and scheme of things, and with the knowledge that we know so very, very little of what there is to be known. Like the little boy—in this county—of whom the writer once asked to be directed to a certain place. The little fellow started to give directions, hesitated, became confused—Then looking me in the face he said, "Mister, you'll have to ask somebody else,—I-I don't know anything—hardly."

However, it will help us to face 1936 with firm resolve, and with confidence in our ability to DO.

THE OLD HOME TOWN by STANLEY



Random SIDE GLANCES By W. CURTIS RUSS

Walter Crawford stopped in to join the ranks of "private Pullman riders," which he up to then only Miss Stella Davis, and I had been officially named members.

Fred Saunders hailed me to express himself as being of the same mind as was expressed via this column the day or two before Santa Claus came—that is, "If I had my way—"

Mr. Saunders was particularly interested in the ban on dangerous fireworks, and proved his point by telling of the man in the second story on Main Street Christmas Eve shooting Roman Candles in the crowd on the sidewalk below.

Such things are deplorable, especially in a town the size of Waynesville.

And on Christmas Eve, D. A. Howell celebrated his 48th consecutive year as clerk in a store on the day before Christmas. For many years he owned his business, and when he sold out he went to work for others.

24 Years Ago in HAYWOOD

From the files of December 8, 1911.

Mr. Ernest L. Withers went Sunday to Turinville.

Mr. Charles Turbeyll has returned from a several weeks visit to Fayetteville.

Mr. D. L. Shuman has gone to Aiken, S. C. where he will spend the winter.

Miss Lucie B. Law has accepted a position with the Waynesville Book Company.

Mr. Frank Smathers, of Atlanta City, is the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Smathers.

Mrs. Zeina Lee Browder, of Sweetwater, Tenn., is visiting her brother-in-law and her sister, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Horton.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Ward, of Tuscola, were the guests of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Morgan, on Tuesday.

Dr. J. R. McCracken has returned home from New York City where he has spent the past three months pursuing a course of study.

Mrs. S. H. Bushnell and daughter, Eleanor, left on Tuesday for Reidsville where they will spend two months visiting Mrs. Bushnell's parents.

The contribution made by the Ladies Missionary Society of the Baptist church for Missions at the bazaar held in Waynesville recently amounted to fifty three dollars.

Miss Lillie Satterthwaite returned Wednesday from a visit of several weeks to relatives in Asheville and Turinville. Miss Satterthwaite was accompanied home by Miss Margaret Inman who will be her guest for some time.

Master John Branner Shackelford, Norfolk, Va., is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Atkins.

The wedding of Miss Alden Howell and Mr. James Johnson took place December the 2nd at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Walter Charlton, in Los Angeles, Calif. The bride is the youngest daughter of Capt. Alden Howell. Her marriage shows every interest to her friends here, and wish her much happiness in her future home.

Mr. John Sentelle left last week for Washington, D. C., where he will serve as the secretary of Hon. James M. Gudger, Congressman of the Third District. For the past two years Mr. Sentelle has been with the Asheville Citizen.

When it comes to boosting, Atlanta has been and still is in a class to itself. They are pulling off a big corn show over there this week and just to let the people know about it they called up one hundred thousand business men in different Southern States one day last week to let them know what was on the docket. Now just suppose next spring the Western North Carolina Boosters Association should play the claims of the people of this section before the people of the South.

DID YOU KNOW?

The last surviving plant of the manufacture of farm wagons was sold at auction in St. Louis the other day.

The United States used to turn out a million buggies a year.

It is claimed that every holiday in this country costs the average citizen 75 lives.

The new 200 inch telescope built in Corona, New York, a year ago has just cooled off sufficiently to permit its removal from the assembling oven.

It is said that the naked eye can see 6000 stars. The new 200 inch telescope lens now in process of manufacture will enable the observer to see a billion and a half stars. It will also bring into view stars so far away that it would require a ray of light, traveling 186,000 miles a second, a billion years to reach the earth.

An antique collector who died in Texas, recently left nearly 150 clocks, how would you like to have the job of winding up his estate?

COMBINATION OFFER

FULL SIZE ROYAL CLEANER

Same as advertised in Good Housekeeping Magazine, Ladies Home Journal and Saturday Evening Post. Cleans floors, rugs and carpets. Motor driven revolving brush type. ... Value \$39.50. And a

ROYAL JUNIOR HAND CLEANER

for cleaning upholstery, stairs, draperies, automobile interiors, etc. ... Value \$12.00.

Total retail value ... \$51.50

BOTH FOR THE PRICE \$39.50

This offer is for a limited time only... do not delay... it is a real bargain... one that you cannot afford to miss.

MARTIN ELECTRIC COMPANY

PHONE 31 SALES—SERVICE CHURCH ST.

"A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed"

We believe that actual experience must have been the inspiration for this ancient rhyme—it is so full of truth.

Perhaps however, you have never had occasion to put a friend to the acid test. Probably you don't even know what a real friend Alexander's Drug Store is although you have been dealing here for many years. But those who have called on us in time of urgent need are fully convinced.

ASK YOUR DOCTOR

Two LICENSED PHARMACISTS For Your Protection

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Try At Home First. . . And You'll Never Regret It