

## THE MOUNTAINEER

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1936

## LOOKING AHEAD TO 1937

For 15 years, Roger W. Babson, has given the country accurate views on coming business events. In 1929, he foretold the Stock Market crash almost to a day. In 1932, he foretold the end of the depression.

A year ago, he said: "business should be hugging the normal and heading into another period of prosperity by the end of 1936."

What has happened? According to all business charts compiled by the government and statisticians, and in spite of wars and elections, business has boomed steadily ahead and today, stands at normal for the first time in seven years.

As we approach the New Year, Mr. Babson tells just what to expect in 1937. Read what Mr. Babson says about business for next year, in an exclusive feature in The Mountaineer, in the issue of December 31.

## CHRISTMAS FIREWORKS

It has never been quite clear as to why we, of the South, persist in shooting off fireworks during the Christmas holidays rather than on the Fourth of July. But we do.

With this fact before us, it is well to consider the way and manner of "enjoying" the Christmas fireworks, since enjoy Christmas fireworks we apparently will.

A great deal of danger attaches to the promiscuous and careless handling of firecrackers. A hand torn or burned by the premature explosion of a "cracker" too often means lockjaw; the hurling of firecrackers into crowds may mean serious injury to someone.

But peculiarly enough there are some folks who evidently cannot find enough pleasure in shooting off firecrackers in a sane and safe manner. They must insist in throwing lighted crackers under the feet of others or toss them into the middle of an assembled crowd. This way lies danger.

Children, and sometimes adults, too, are often inclined to hold the firecracker in the hands too long at the risk of receiving a serious injury which may result in lockjaw. A good plan is to drop or throw the lighted cracker, even when it fails to "spew." One may not have the satisfaction of seeing and hearing it "pop," but at least he will be playing on the safe side.—Winston-Salem Journal

## SANTA CLAUS, INDIANA

There are thousands of post offices in the United States, but only one has been named for Santa Claus, and it is to be found in Spencer county, Indiana. That there are post offices named Christmas in Arizona, Florida and Kentucky, and that Maine has a Christmas Cove, seems to make little difference to those who are anxious that their Christmas greetings bear the genuine "Santa Claus" postmark. The result is that the postmaster at Santa Claus, who has an easy time most of the year, is up to his ears in work and has called for assistance. The office has had so much publicity that Christmas greetings are sent in bundles with the request that the postmaster remail them. Thus every greeting card envelope would have the Santa Claus postmark.—Ex.

Try at home first is certainly good advice. In fact, so good, that everyone should be willing to take as well as give out such words of wisdom.

Among the other things this country needs, is less impersonation of Santa Claus on the streets, and more of the Santa Claus spirit in our hearts.

## The First Christmas

And it came to pass in these days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, to be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered, and she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night, and lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them and the glory of the Lord shown round about them; and they were sore afraid. The angel said unto them, fear not; for I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, A Saviour which is Christ, the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly hosts praising God and saying, Glory to God on the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger and when they had seen it, they made known abroad the sayings which were told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds, but Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.—Luke 2.

## THE COMMUNITY SING

The Community Sing Sunday night at the Park Theatre was a success from every standpoint. The weather kept some from attending, but even at that, the audience was larger than some people expected.

The manner in which the people sang indicated that they enjoyed the evening, and it seems to us that since the trial event has been staged, that such an event could successfully be staged every month.

There is one thing about such an entertainment it enables friends to know each other better, affords delightful wholesome entertainment, and would create a greater love for music.

At present we see no reason why this cannot be made a monthly event.

## STRIKES IN THE NATION

As a general rule, this section of the country gives but little thought to the news of strikes that have been on for sometime in practically every section of the country. It is not until such strikes begin to make enroads on our everyday lives do we sit up and begin to take notice.

Local manufacturing plants—at least the furniture plants—are already feeling the effects of the glass plants being closed on account of strikes. Merchants are feeling in some instances delays in shipments on their merchandise because of the strike on the part of dock workers.

While this is not a pleasing subject to discuss right at this particular season of the year, it is nevertheless a fact, and one that may cause some concern before it is over with.

From reliable sources of information, we learn that the strikes are not in force because of a wage question, but whether or not the plans will be union or non-union.

We also learned, that the direct blows are intended against the steel and automobile industry. Regardless of whom the blow is intended the "jar" is sometimes felt some distance away.

## YOUR NEIGHBOR'S CHRISTMAS

You, yourself, probably are making plans for a happy and joyous Christmas. How about your neighbor?

Practically all of us have some neighbor who hasn't been as fortunate, financially, as some of the rest of us have been. He will be unable to provide his family with the cheer which will find itself into your own home. The ultimate in Christmas pleasure cannot be realized if we know that there is someone close by who cannot participate in those pleasures and whose home is darkened by an unhappiness which it rests within our power to lift.—State Magazine.

## THE OLD HOME TOWN

Registered U. S. Patent Office by STANLEY



ED WIDGER, WHO DELIVERS WARSAW FOR HIS WIFE, SHOWED MARSHAL OTY, WALKER THE RAISE HIS HE GAVE HIM

## Random SIDE GLANCES

By W. CURTIS RUSS

For three days I have been trying to find a suitable subject to write about—one that is different—so very different—and yet timely. At this very hour no new idea has come to mind—wait—here is one—yes, I'll do that very thing—I'll use the same column that I had last year—a good idea—even if not such a good column—

If I had my way, it would be against the law to picture Santa Claus with prominent false teeth.

If I had my way, everyone would be compelled to read on Christmas Day, the scripture of the first Christmas. (Published elsewhere in this paper.)

If I had my way, I would place a heavy fine on any person giving the secret of Santa Claus away to a child under nine.

If I had my way, all Christmas decorations would be down and out of sight on December 26th.

If I had my way, trees on lawns would be decorated with colored lights for the benefit of all.

If I had my way, I would ston this idea of making children believe Santa comes down the chimney.

If I had my way, I would revive the old-fashioned idea of hanging stockings.

If I had my way, I would give the children a substitute for firecrackers to make a noise with.

If I had my way, I would put children's clothes on every adult caught shooting firecrackers and parade them up and down Main street a whole day.

If I had my way, I would have a reserved section at all toy counters for adults, in order that the children could peep at the playthings meant for them.

If I had my way, I would employ a crew of trained men and women to canvass the community and make sure no child was forgotten.

If I had my way, business would be suspended for two days—on December 24th and Christmas 25. The holiday on the 24th in order that everyone might rest up for a merrier Christmas.

If I had my way, I would have groups of real singers go over town just at dusk singing old Christmas songs, and ban the radio bunk during that hour.

If I had my way, there would be nothing but noiseless fireworks, and every community would have a free night display of the most beautiful that could be made.

If I had my way, every adult would have to attend a public Christmas tree event where children were given gifts, in order that those who have grown too old to get the spirit might have it revived.

If I had my way, it would be a custom to take at least five minutes on Christmas to visit among the sick.

If I had my way, chimes would be played off and on all day.

If I had my way, every person would get a greeting card at least a week before Christmas, as no cards would be mailed after December 20th. (Note to postal officials, if that idea goes across, I'll be looking for a pension.)

If I had my way, reference to Santa Claus would be Santa Claus, and not St. Nick, or St. Nicholas or anything else.

If I had my way, all Christmas cigars would have to be smoked in the open.

If I have my way, everyone of you will have the best Christmas ever.

## 23 Years Ago in Haywood

(From the file of December 19, 1913.)

Miss Sarah Hill Hannah spent Wednesday in Asheville shopping.

Mrs. W. T. Blaylock went to Asheville Tuesday on business.

Mr. G. C. Briggs, Jr., who has been attending school in Chatham, Va., has returned to spend the holidays with his parents.

Mr. Ira Williams, of Atlanta, was in town during the week, a guest at the Suyeta Park Hotel.

Miss Louise Muller is expected this week to spend the holidays with her cousins, the Misses Satterthwaite.

Miss Evelyn Abel, who has been attending school in Washington, is expected home tomorrow to spend the holidays with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Graves will leave Sunday for Richmond, Va., where they will visit Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kenny.

Miss Bessie Lee, who has been in Charlotte attending Elizabeth College, is expected home to spend Christmas with her parents.

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Stringfield left today for Birmingham, Ala., where they will visit relatives during Christmas.

Mrs. Ed Battle was hostess to the Auction Bridge Club Wednesday afternoon at her home on Haywood street. The prize for the highest score was made by Miss Lillie Satterthwaite.

Miss Nora Swift, who has been in Spartanburg, attending Converse College, is expected home to spend the holidays with her family.

The faculty of St. Katherine's school entertained last Saturday night, with a dance in honor of the students of the school, who will leave shortly for their homes to spend Christmas.

Friday will be patrons day at the graded school and all the parents having children in school and those interested are invited to attend that day.

There are three hundred and twenty-five old soldiers and widows who are this week made happy by their annual checks from the state. Haywood receives the third largest amount of any county in the state, being exceeded by Buncombe and another one in the mountains. This is most convincing proof that the people of the mountains and Haywood county rallied to the cause of the Stars and Bars.



Christmas greetings to our hundreds of customers and neighbors. Much good cheer for the coming New Year.

## WATKINS CHEVROLET CO., Inc.

SALES — SERVICE

PHONE 75



At the threshold of another year, traditional season of remembrances and hope, our thoughts revert with sincerest gratitude to those whose loyal co-operation and good will have made possible our progress.

May the holidays bring you joys in abundance, and may every opportunity for success be yours as the new year rounds the circle of its ways.

## Alexander's Drug Store