

The Mountaineer

Published By
THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO.
 Main Street Phone 137
 Waynesville, North Carolina
 The County Seat Of Haywood County

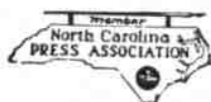
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 W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 One Year, In Haywood County \$1.50
 Six Months, In Haywood County75
 One Year, Outside Haywood County 2.00
 All Subscriptions Payable In Advance

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Mail Matter, as provided under the Act of March 3, 1879, November 29, 1914.

Obituary notices, resolutions of respect, cards of thanks, and all notices of entertainments for profit, will be charged for at the rate of one cent per word.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1937

JUSTIFIED OPTIMISM

When conservative people like Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Long spend sums like \$40,000 on enlarging their Waynesville Country Club, the effect is far-reaching.

Right at this time when there is a recession in business—in some parts of the nation—it does not take long for the pessimists to scatter their gloom and cast a shadow over business in general.

The fact that the addition to the Country Club is already underway, proves that the owners are really doing the job, and that it is not a publicity stunt pulled with the idea of making some real estate sales.

Mr. and Mrs. Long have made a success with the Country Club and their golf course. Their determination to make it the best Club and Course in the south has had much to do with their success. They have not had a bed of roses in making their undertaking a success. In fact, it was generally conceded that they had a white elephant on their hands when they took over the reins.

They are conservative optimists. The new addition to the club house will no doubt be just the beginning of a general enlargement program.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Right off hand we do not think of but a few more joyful occasions than a wedding anniversary. Especially if the observance marks the 40th or more years of married life.

Last week an unusual thing was noted in The Mountaineer, when the news of a golden wedding anniversary and the celebration of a sixtieth anniversary was published. Both couples are to be congratulated, along with others who have had the joy to have such celebrations.

As we look at the younger generation, after reading of these two wedding anniversaries, we stopped and wondered how many 1937 brides and grooms would celebrate a similar anniversary.

It is not that we fear the lack of love, although too many times there isn't enough in present day marriages, but the present generation is going at such a rapid pace, chasing the almighty dollar and a good time. Can their bodies stand the strain?

Or do we go to the extreme in our mad chase, realizing that when our bodies become worn and tired, that medical science has advanced to such a high stage that we can be practically remade, and enjoy good health again?

And, yet, we might be thinking the same things that some editor did during the years when these couples who are now celebrating their 50th and 60th anniversaries were married, worried, and wrote about.

"PIN HOOKING" PROFITABLE

It is interesting to know that "pin hookers" sometimes make as much as fifteen and sixteen cents profit per pound on lots of tobacco they buy, just by merely regrading it.

As far as we know, it is perfectly legitimate to "pin hook" on the tobacco market. Certainly there is a profit to be made in it by shrewd buyers, and those who know how to handle tobacco.

Often a farmer is too anxious to get his crop on the market to give it the necessary grading. Of course, in such instances the farmer loses heavily.

Tobacco experts are always warm in their praise of Haywood Tobacco, and look on it as an average premium tobacco. Haywood growers are qualified to produce good tobacco, and almost in every instance the crop is well graded before being placed on the market.

IRON DUFF TOWNSHIP

We seriously doubt if there is another township anywhere, of the same size, that has attained the record of Iron Duff Township. The audit of the 1936 county tax books shows that there is not a delinquent taxpayer in the township.

When one stops and considers that there is something like 600 people in the township, and not one person on relief, nor have been on relief, it is only natural that one concludes that the citizens of the Township are hard working and conservative folks. They are.

Not only do they work hard, and practice thrift, but they are progressive. New farm practices are carried on by the people. They must know a thing is right before they try it out, but are progressive enough to keep abreast of the modern way of doing things.

Among the several organizations in the Township, is the Iron Duff Watershed Association. The membership consists of 97 per cent of the farmers, and the attendance is practically 100 per cent at each monthly meeting in the school.

There are many interesting things about Iron Duff Township. A conservative estimate is that 98 per cent of the people living there were born and reared in Iron Duff. As far as is known, every person in the township was born in Haywood County.

The Township starts near Lake Junaluska, and is about 6 miles long and two miles wide. There are 6,562 acres in the township. The tax valuation is \$244,220, and the amount of taxes is \$2,782.62.

Ninety-seven per cent of the farmers own their homes.

According to the records, there is not a government loan or a deed of trust against any piece of land in Iron Duff.

There are fewer automobiles in Iron Duff Township, according to population, than any township in the county.

The normal vote of the township is about 160. Practically all are Democrats. Only 7 Republican votes were cast in the last presidential election.

The average worth per family has been set at \$5,000.

Citizens of Iron Duff do not buy insurance of any kind, to any marked degree. It is one of the customs of long standing, and insurance salesmen have long learned that the territory is far from good for prospects.

The valuation of the land in Iron Duff is listed at \$202,386.

The records also show there are 107 horses, 248 cows, 13 mules and 435 head of cattle in Iron Duff.

Those who have moved from the township, always call it home, and are boosters for their township right to the end, and one of the remarks always made, is that there has never been a homicide in Iron Duff Township.

It is an evident fact that the citizens of Iron Duff take pride in their community.

And again, we repeat, that we do not believe there are many, if any, township in the country that can show as good a record as Haywood's Iron Duff.

ISN'T IT TRUE

My father says the paper he reads ain't put up right;
 He finds a lot of faults, too, he does, persuin' it all night;
 He says there ain't a single thing in it worth to read,
 And that it doesn't print the kind of stuff the people need;
 He tosses it aside and says it's strictly on the bum.
 But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come.
 He reads about the weddin's and he snorts like all get out;
 He reads the social doin's with a most derisive shout,
 He says they make the papers for the women folks alone;
 He'll read about the parties and he'll fume and fret and groan;
 He says of information it doesn't have a crumb—
 But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come.
 He is always first to grab it and reads it plumb clean through.
 He doesn't miss an item, or a want ad—that is true;
 He says they don't know what we want, the darn newspaper guys;
 "I'm going to take a day some time and go and put 'em wise;
 "Sometimes it seems as though they must be deaf and blind and dumb."
 But you ought to hear him holler when the paper doesn't come!
 —Cambridge North Star.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



Random SIDE GLANCES

By W. CURTIS RUSS

When it comes to imitating personalities, all due credit has to be given James Gibbs, a colored handy-man at the Food Store, who possesses more than ordinary talent for imitating local people.

James has the ability to hear a case in court, and for weeks later, repeat almost word for word what lawyers told the jury. In many instances he can repeat accurately testimony of witnesses.

This local imitator, however, has made a special study of the methods and phrases used by Solicitor John M. Queen, and can now imitate the solicitor to a marked degree of accuracy.

Next in line, he takes W. A. Francis, and roars forth with as much emphasis as Mr. Francis ever put into a case.

The other day James was repeating the plea made before a jury by Grover Davis, and after he had finished, Mr. Davis said he had it correct word for word.

The bigger the case, the more attention James pays to them, and his chief hobby is attending court and getting new material with which to entertain friends for weeks to come.

With a little coaching James could easily become a fair entertainer, not only for local amusement, but in other fields. Sometimes he will be featured at a local entertainment here, and when he does, I predict that that will be just the beginning of a series of requests to give this or that trial.

I don't reckon I am telling any business secrets, but C. N. Allen, of Hazelwood is one merchant who believes in taking stock before January first. He gets his done the first of December, and while discussing his procedure, remarked: "If I find I went in the hole I forget it and enjoy Christmas, knowing that I won't have to fool with taking stock after the holidays."

To say the least, that is an optimistic way to look at it, even if things should not exactly clear the red side of the ledger.

Among the things that I am unable to understand is the way some people will wear their coats these cold days. Some will have on a heavy overcoat, a sweater, a regular coat, and so help me, if they have either of them buttoned, and go around humped over as if they were about to freeze.

Not that it matters, but I wonder if the girls who play basketball, enjoy parading the streets, before the games in the long pant suits, or is that the latest in promenading?

And to think that down in South America they are just beginning to dig dandelions out of the front yard and sharpen the lawn mower.

The Germans are stout-hearted people, so we expect them to bear up under the latest Hitler prediction: "I shall not live for ever."

Weep with Mrs. Irene Castle McLaughlin who wails to the judge that she simple cannot get along on \$750 a month alimony allowed to her. Tears are withheld, however, when we know of many families living on that amount, not for a month but for a year.

Faith is what helps us to carry on in spite of disappointments and regrets.

We'd hate to have to carry the mail that is being sent to Santa Claus!

Faith and patience are great assets and wonderful helps when you need them.

Taxes will not go down as long as the people look to their government for expenditures.

It begins to look like democracies will have to prepare for war whether they want peace or not.

Your real friends are the people for whom you make life happier.

START GETTING "RIGGED" UP NOW FOR CHRISTMAS...

Send your cleaning to our plant, where work is expertly done.

POINTED PARAGRAPHS

A great majority of the people of this country have no idea what the present session of congress intends to do, and among this number are a large number of congressmen.

For 37 years King Victoria Emanuele has been on the throne of Italy, if one includes the years during which Mussolini has reigned.

The present congress is expected to enact a law defining the correct length for a railroad train. But some course will stick to the old Abe Lincoln opinion that "a train should be long enough to reach from the engine to the caboose."

A squib going the rounds of the press says that chop suey originated in New York City, and is unknown in China. Well, China hasn't missed anything.

Definitions: "Debtor, one who owes money. Creditor, one who imagines he will get it."

It is easy to consider both sides of a question if we have no personal interest in either.

It is some relief to be assured by a Georgia psychologist that no mechanical lie detector will work.

Perhaps, after all, the most fortunate people are those who can't obtain credit enough to enable them to live beyond their means.

A Charleston man drew 12 spades in a bridge hand, but spoiled a good news story by declining to drop dead.

Foreign diplomats talk a great deal about the waste in modern war but right now they don't seem to worry much about notepaper.

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Many of the serums in our refrigerator may never be used, but they're there just the same as a priceless protection to the citizens of this community.

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