

The Mountaineer

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W. CURTIS RUSS Editor
MRS. HILDA WAY GWYN Associate Editor
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THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1940

Haywood And A Ship

It is hard for a citizen nestled snugly in these hills to imagine a ship on the high seas that cost more than all the assessed valuation of property in Haywood County.

We do not wonder that such a ship would be the pride of the British navy, and that every risk was run in getting the thirty million dollar floating gold mine across the Atlantic to New York and safety before a German submarine sent a destructive torpedo through her hull.

But when we realize that one ship costing twenty-five per cent more than the assessed valuation of Haywoods property, we can begin to visualize more clearly, the true meaning of modern war on the high seas.

One well aimed torpedo, and thirty millions in money, with probably hundreds of lives wiped out.

The same amount of ammunition used on land would do only a comparable minor damage.

Be that as it may, the mere fact that thirty millions in one ship is not such startling news to Americans, after living for the past seven years in a land where expenditures on things worth much less than a luxury liner cost far more.

In Defense Of Enka

Naturally, with a large number of Haywood County people employed by the American Enka Corporation, we have taken a sympathetic attitude toward the company in the charge against them of unfair labor practices.

We approve the editorial which appeared in Sunday's Asheville Citizen-Times which pointed out the debt that Asheville and Western North Carolina owe the Enka Company, and the socially minded manner in which they have met the problems in the economic situation brought on by the depression.

In part the editorial contained: "The men who manage the American Enka Corporation are mostly Dutchmen. When they came here more than a decade ago, they had to adjust themselves to the life of a small Southern community whose ways were not their own. They spoke our language with noticeable accent. They had little mannerisms, which betrayed the land from which they came.

"History tells us that the people who inhabit Holland are a great folk—industrious, intelligent, thrifty and scrupulously honest. Hardly had the Enka plant been placed in production before the depression struck in its terrible fury. All industry was severely hit. The rayon business was particularly demoralized.

"Did these Enka Dutchmen lose heart? Not on your life. They bent to their jobs with greater resolution. By staggering employment and driving themselves to supreme exertion they managed to keep the smoke belching from their stacks. Stocks piled up in the warehouses. Losses multiplied. But the employees were kept partially engaged and the community was saved from the shock of still greater unemployment.

"The Citizen-Times does not undertake to pass upon the truth or falsity of these accusations. It would be improper and even unjust for us to venture an opinion on an issue about which we necessarily know so little."

But if we judge by the many satisfied employes of the American Enka Corporation from Haywood County, we would say that if all corporations had gained the confidence and appreciation of jobs offered by the Enka Corporation, many of the troubles between capital and labor in this country would have been averted, and there would have been no necessity for the passage of much of the labor legislation.

Liquor Laurels

From time to time there has been a great deal of publicity given makers of "mountain moonshine" in Haywood County. If one did not know better, some accounts would lead one to believe that every dark and damp mountain cove in the county had a still hidden in some secluded spot from which flowed a continuous stream of corn liquor.

Over an extended period of years at the Federal courts held in Asheville, presiding judges have made long and eloquent charges to juries about some poor misguided Haywood County manufacturer of corn liquor, who perhaps made only a hundred or even less gallons. For such instances Haywood has come to have quite a reputation for the manufacture of illegal beverages.

But after a news story from Lumberton, in Eastern Carolina, surely Haywood can no longer be cited as one of the outstanding liquor-making counties in the state, as the judges have often referred to it in the past. Haywood's glory will be compelled to fade by contrast.

For down in Robeson County, near Lumberton, last week officers captured in one single day, so it was reported by the press, 4,100 gallons of mash. Last year it was said that officers in the same county estimated more than 400 raids and that the high rate of 1939 was being maintained in the current year.

Now we, sadly but readily, admit that Haywood County citizens have been guilty of breaking the law by illegal use of their hillside-grown corn, and we deplore the number of liquor cases that have and continue to adorn the dockets of our courts, but even at that the largest known hauls ever made in the county have not exceeded 700 gallons. We have transgressed, but have manufactured on a comparatively small scale.

Now we gladly pass Haywood's liquor laurels over to Robeson County. We are not in the class up here in the hills with those folks who live down in the swamps.

They Are Here

No event in recent years has aroused more interest than the purchase of the car load of purebred registered Hereford cattle that arrived safely from Kansas City Saturday.

As previously stated in this paper, these cattle were purchased by J. C. Lynn, county farm agent, and his able assistants, John Reitzel and Wayne Corpening, the transaction being sponsored by the First National Bank and the County board of commissioners.

At the time this is being written the cattle are being cared for at Bramlett's Stables and have been inspected and admired by hundreds of people. Cattlemen, business and professional men, 4-H club boys and girls, women and children have all visited the stables.

The closest critics all agree that they are all that could have been expected and a great deal more than most people thought they would be. An account of the purchases and distribution of the animals appears elsewhere in this paper, but we take this opportunity to congratulate J. C. Lynn and his assistants on the good work they have done and we trust that this is just the beginning of bringing more fine cattle into Haywood County.

Decadence Of Grapefruit

They have been experimenting with the grapefruit down in Florida and have contrived a thing of beauty, a golden gesture that decorates the breakfast table with delight. It was piling it on a bit thick, perhaps, to say that it is sweeter than honey from the honeycomb, or to endow it with the bouquet of that Greek wine the old voluptuary, Aelius Laminus, could never forget. Anyhow, the over-educated palates of 1940 will find it good.

Could there be anything symbolic, we wonder, in the evolution of the grapefruit? It was back in Grover Cleveland's first administration that the gourmets began to speak well of it. As McKinley strode into the White House, waving the full dinner pail, fashionable society nibbled at it. Soon the proletariat was trying to like it. It was a Spartan job. In its original incarnation, the grapefruit's meat was bitter as quinine, its juice was as gall and wormwood. One is almost tempted to say that the mounds of sugar required to make it palatable turned Cuba and Louisiana to raising cane.

Here was a target for that insatiable vice—improvement. California multiplied it. Arizona sweetened it. Texas painted it pink. All the lusty wallops of its primal fury was excised. And now comes the latest Florida edition, which almost asks for vinegar and certainly can be toned up with a jigger of lemon juice.

Somewhere a poet has recently spoken of "the monstrous vulgarities of misapplied science." The denatured grapefruit is a horrible example.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Here and There

—By—
HILDA WAY GWYN

Since referring to Confucius recently in this column we have had a very illuminating contribution . . . a list of some of the sayings of this much quoted and much misquoted Chinese philosopher . . . in which we found great interest so we are passing excerpts of each group along to you . . . some of the things he really did say, are as follows . . .

"Observe a man's actions; scrutinize his motives; take note of the things that give him pleasure. How then, can he hide from you what he really is?"

"Acquire new knowledge whilst thinking over the old, and you may become a teacher of others."

"Study without thought is vain; thought without study is perilous."

"When you know, to know that you know, and when you do not know, to know that you do not know—that is true knowledge."

"To sacrifice to a spirit with which you have nothing to do is mere servility."

"He who serves his Prince with all the proper ceremony will be accounted by men a flatterer."

"It is fruitless to discuss accomplished facts, to protest against thing past remedy, to find fault with things bygone."

"Instead of being concerned that you have no office, be concerned to think how you may fit yourself for office. Instead of being concerned that you are not known, seek to be worthy of being known."

"When you see a good man think of emulating him; when you see a bad man examine your own heart."

"Virtue cannot live in solitude. Neighbors are sure to grow up around it."

"The men of olden times who studied virtue had only their own improvement in view; these who study it now have an eye to the applause of others."

"Hopeless indeed is the case of those who cap herd together all day long without once letting their conversation reach a higher plane, but are content to bandy smart and shallow wit."

Then the modern version of this man whose sayings even after more than 2,000 years still have deep and significant meaning we quote some of the current quotations of which he was not the author . . . but are attributed to him because of the fad . . .

"Confucius say man who sleeps like dog snore like sawmill."

"Confucius say smart man is one who not let any woman pin anything on him since he was baby."

"Confucius say boy meet girl in revolving door: go 'round ever since."

"Confucius say son shave first time because he feels little down at the mouth."

"Confucius say man get tired bringing home the bacon if wife not home to fry it."

"Confucius say Grandma used to wear night cap; now she drinks it."

"Confucius say honeymoon over when husband take wife off pedestal, put her on budget."

"Confucius say wise wife who beats husband up in morning."

"Confucius say bum steer not always found in stockyards."

"Confucius say fool and his money is some party."

"Confucius say girl who gets kissed on forehead wear high heels next time."

"Confucius say man that sitteth on a tack is better off."



Voice of The People

Would you like to have a softball schedule of games played here this summer, similar to that of last year?

J. R. Boyd—"Yes. I approve of softball, and I think we are going to have the same kind we had last year."

C. J. Vandenhoozen—"I think it a very fine thing for the community."

R. L. Prevost—"Yes. The softball games of last year attracted the largest crowds and more community spirit was demonstrated than has ever been shown for any form of entertainment in this section."

Mrs. Ernest J. Hyatt—"I would like the same schedule very much, for the benefit of both the old and young."

L. M. Richeson—"Yes, and I feel that everybody will want it."

Miss Alice Quinlan—"Yes, I would. In fact I highly approve of any wholesome entertainment for the summer visitors as well as the home folks."

Ernest L. Withers—"Yes. I think the softball games one of the most interesting summer features of entertainment we have ever had. It affords entertainment for the permanent resident and the summer visitors."

W. L. Lampkin—"Yes, I would. I think that softball games are wonderful entertainment not only for the home folks, but also for the summer visitors."

W. L. Hardin, Jr.—"I certainly would. I feel that it was a pleasure to both summer and home folks last year. It is a wholesome and inexpensive form of entertainment, and gives the working man a chance for good exercise, that he might not otherwise get."

Quinby Kipp—Manager Hotel Gordon—"Yes, I certainly would, and I feel that it is a great asset to the town."

IN LOOKING OVER THE COUNTY—

General Haywood

GETS A FEW THINGS OF COUNTY-WIDE INTEREST OFF HIS MIND WITH LETTERS

L. M. Richeson, chairman, High School Band Committee. Dear Mr. Richeson:—

You and your committee have every reason to be proud of the work you have done with the band since September, and the responsiveness of the public in general.

There is no reason why you should not get the \$1,800 during your present campaign; and the reason I say that, is that in looking over the list, the names of some citizens were conspicuous by their absence. These citizens are able to help finance the band movement, and should be that civic-minded. I have every reason to believe they will do their part this week.

You deserve much credit for the work you have done, and you are due the co-operation of every person in the community in putting over the program.

GENERAL HAYWOOD.

To All Haywood Dog Owners:—

Next month marks the beginning of the vaccination period for all dogs. Special inspectors have been named in each township to vaccinate for rabies, and will carry out the work in accordance to the state law of 1935.

I am sure that all dog owners will co-operate to the fullest and have all dogs vaccinated, and thus prevent a recurrence of last year's epidemic of mad dogs.

The cost is very small, and the protection is a health safeguard to loved ones.

GENERAL HAYWOOD.

Law Enforcement Officers. Gentlemen:—

I was startled to hear about the federal officers in Asheville last week, who opened fire on the city streets there when a prisoner broke loose and ran.

Fortunately, no one was injured, although one or more of the bullets struck walls and rocketed over the street.

Officers have a duty to perform in protecting the public and not to make it dangerous for them. Too often officers grab for their guns when it is not necessary.

Not so many years ago, right here on the Main street of Waynesville, a similar incident happened, when a violator of some minor law fled from an officer.

A great many times officers act too hasty in such circumstances, and that is when the general public brands all officers as being careless and incompetent.

All officers, should by all means, take due care in carrying out the letter of the law, but never take undue chances of doing more harm than good.

GENERAL HAYWOOD.

YOU'RE TELLING ME!

By WILLIAM RITT
Central Press Writer

A CHAMPION is admired by everyone, says the man at the next desk, unless he happens to be a champion tightwad.

Even if he loses the war, Hitler can rest on his laurels of having made more people nervous than did any other man in history.

An average of 800 new songs are copyrighted each week. Modern man may not be as powerful as his ancient ancestor, but he has stronger ears.

At the same time we read a scientific item which says the earthworm has no hearing apparatus. Well, there must be

some sort of compensation for having to be a worm.

There is really nothing funny about a dictatorship, says Zador Dumbkopi, even if the dictator looks like a fugitive from a comic strip.

The first crop of spring greens have already made their appearance. They are those raw-necked rookies in the baseball training camps.

A speaker suggests European leaders settle their differences with boxing gloves rather than battles. Won't work. Because a punch on his own nose hurts a dictator worse than a bullet in some one else's body.

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