

The Mountaineer

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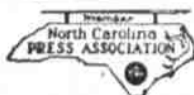
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THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 1940

It's Spring Cleaning Time

Along with the flowers and birds come another side of spring that most people approach with a sigh, regardless of how hard they tackle the job.

After a long drab winter—and certainly the past one deserves all the desolate adjectives we ever apply to weather—there awaits the housewife and general property owner a big job of getting rid of the accumulation of dust, dirt and rubbish.

It is often back-breaking and tiring, but when finished it offers great satisfaction to the sponsor.

As the housekeepers about this community go in for a general house-cleaning, the town usually plans a clean-up of the community, and in this way a thorough cleaning of the community is brought about.

In fact, it is doubtful if any campaigns ever held enhance the appearance of the town quite so much as an old-fashioned, stirring-up, clean-up campaign.

This spring for many reasons it is desirable that this community co-operate with all forces joining hands—individuals, business houses, civic organizations and town authorities—to give the town the best spring cleaning it has ever enjoyed.

Another important item of the spring cleaning will be the rat eradication program which is being sponsored by the health department, which has been needed for a long time, which will be carried on in connection with the clean-up campaign staged by the city fathers.

'A Day Will Come'

The following from the pen of Victor Hugo, said to have been written sometime during the 1870's, will indeed be a great day, when it arrives, but from the present situation and conditions in Europe, and the manner in which this country is building warships, airplanes and putting new life into its standing army, many generations will pass ere his prophecy comes true:

"A day will come when only battlefields will be the market open to commerce and the mind opening to new ideas. A day will come when bullets and bombshells will be replaced by votes by the universal suffrage of nations, by the venerable arbitration of a great sovereign senate, which will be to Europe what the Parliament is to England, what the Diet is to Germany, what the Legislative Assembly is to France.

"A day will come when a cannon will be exhibited in public museums just as an instrument of torture is now, and people will be astonished how such a thing could have been. A day will come when these two immense groups, the United States of America and the United States of Europe, shall be seen placed in the presence of each other extending the hand of fellowship across the ocean."

Three Of The Greatest

We noted with interest the numerous patents which have brought to us untold comforts of living in the long list published in connection with the recent 150th anniversary of the Patent Law.

Seventy-five scientists and officials compiled the list, considering only patents which have expired and become public property.

Thomas A. Edison, who gave the world the phonograph, incandescent lamp and motion pictures, is credited with three of the nineteen greatest inventions.

The list with names of the inventors and dates when patents were received follows, and it is interesting to consider how far-reaching each patent has been:

Cotton gin, Ely Whitney, 1794; steamboat (commercial), Robert Fulton, 1809; reaper, Cyrus H. McCormick, 1834; telegraph, Samuel F. B. Morse, 1840; rubber vulcanization, Charles Goodyear, 1844; sewing machine, Elias Howe, Jr., 1846.

Typewriter, C. L. Sholes, 1868; telephone, Alexander Graham Bell, 1876; phonograph, Thomas A. Edison, 1830; incandescent lamp, Thomas A. Edison, 1880; induction motor, Nikola Tesla, 1888; aluminum production method, Charles M. Hall, 1889.

Linotype, Ottmar Mergenthaler, 1890; motion picture projector, Thomas A. Edison, 1893; airplane, Orville and Wilbur Wright, 1906; three-electrode vacuum tube, Dr. Lee De Forest, 1907; thermosetting plastics (bakelite), Leo H. Bakeland, 1909; and oil cracking, William M. Burton, 1913.

Another weakness of our distribution system is seen in the fact that with three million square miles of area in this country it is often impossible to find a parking place.

When nature developed our ears as instruments to warn us of danger, she didn't foresee our present noisy civilization and failed to provide us with "earlids" with which we could shut out objectionable sounds.

Here and There

—By—
HILDA WAY GWYN

Going down Main street on Friday morning . . . from our house to the end of the resurfacing . . . which had temporarily cut off traffic . . . almost gave us the "creeps." . . . We had just been reading of the last word of the European conflict . . . of the recent turn of affairs . . . There was not a car in sight . . . the Gulf station deserted . . . the Standard station closed . . . not a soul in evidence about the Watkins Chevrolet place . . . only a few persons on that particular section of the street . . . The silence broken by the crowing of a rooster . . . in the garden of the J. R. Boyd place . . . the quietness and forsaken look . . . made us think of the deserted spots . . . abandoned since last September across the seas! . . . Then we jerked our thoughts back to the cause of this temporary desertion . . . We looked at the pavement . . . and were grateful . . . as we have been many times of late . . . as we have read the war news . . . that the cause of cessation of business in our town . . . was the sign of progress . . . and not of destruction . . . Our civilization was not being destroyed . . . for our children to rebuild some day . . . but it was going forward! . . . Often we have wondered if we are thankful enough for what it means to live in America today . . . for with all our political differences . . . we stand united as one great nation . . .

Time . . . we were speaking in a group of where it has gone . . . Time was . . . when there once was plenty of it . . . But is there a more prevalent remark than . . . "Well, I would like to very much, if I can find the time" . . . or, "Yes, I intended to, but I did not have the time" . . . and so on . . . Where has the precious thing gone? . . . Yet back in the past . . . and one does not have to be "aged" to remember that the summer afternoons were nice and long . . . lazy, drowsy hours, often with nothing pushing to do . . . with time to spare! . . . And then you recall those lovely long winter evenings . . . with dusk coming on so early . . . and that cozy feeling shut indoors . . . with the night before you! . . . But now it is all changed! . . . One grand rush to keep the schedule running smoothly . . . you are due for an appointment . . . a social engagement . . . a committee meeting . . . a conference . . . an interview . . . You must keep accurate check of the hours, lest you get all balled up with complications! . . . It is not only the schedule of the adult . . . the young have much the same trouble with Time . . . We heard of a very rare condition recently . . . of a young matron in town who was bored . . . and Time was hanging heavy on her hands! . . . We positively envied her . . . not that we want to be bored . . . but the mere luxury of enough leisure to reach the stage . . .

A number of things of sheer beauty are brought to us at this season . . . Some of them last such a brief space . . . that we always feel that we must be almost greedy in our enjoyment of them . . . the yellow and white of the forsythia and the spirea . . . and the jonquils and the daffodils . . . waving in the breeze . . . They hold such a glamorous promise of summer just ahead! . . . At the recent golden jubilee tea held by the club women in the dining room of the Gordon hotel . . . these flowers were combined with exquisite arrangements . . . and with the background of the yellow curtains of the dining room . . . offered a startling picture of loveliness . . . And . . . in contrast to the beauty of spring . . . we found in our mail during the week . . . the following reminder of winter just passed . . . (It was written by a local person, who asked that we withhold her name . . . we are sorry, for we would like to give her credit . . . for you'll agree that she has the soul of the artist.) . . .

"BLACK LACE"
Some say
In winter
Trees lack grace;
And yet,
Against a flaming sky
At evening,
They make fine lace
In silhouette."

Briefs . . . The race for governor of North Carolina . . . as far as Haywood County managers are concerned . . . seems to be on a fine congenial plane . . . The managers of the three leading candidates . . . Walter Crawford, T. Lenoir Gwyn and Sam Queen . . . were seen at the Young Democratic rally . . . sitting side by side in the jury box . . . apparently having a good time . . . Of course, it may have been that they were afraid to let one another out of sight among all those fresh young voters! . . . We hear on all sides that the "womanless wedding" should be repeated in the summer . . . it was that



Voice of The People

Would you prefer regular kindergarten classes as a part of the public school system of North Carolina?
Mrs. Frank Ferguson—"Yes, because they would give a child a background for the work they take up later in school."
Mrs. W. R. Francis—"I approve the idea of kindergarten class, but if the system would increase our taxes at the present time, I would not approve of it being incorporated in the schools."
Mrs. Tom Campbell—"Yes, I would approve the kindergarten classes. They create aptitude and readiness for the work of the first grade."
Mrs. Joe Liner—"Yes, I certainly would approve of the kindergarten classes in the public school system."
Miss Debrayda Fisher—"I think that before kindergarten classes are added it would be better to have a nine months school term, as the child would get the equivalent of an extra year, and even before the kindergarten is added I

General Haywood

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

State Highway and Public Works Commission
Dear Sirs:—
So often work that is done on streets and highways takes place at inopportune times, and inconveniences a lot of people. Now, I want both to thank and congratulate you on the selection of the time you chose to resurface Main street.
It has been hard on business during the past week. Things looked mighty gloomy and lonesome for a few days. But if the work had to be done, which was certainly badly needed, you chose a fine time for us Waynesville folks.
We understand that the work could not be done in severe weather, so we are very happy that you are doing it in the spring time, instead of along about August when the summer visitors are coming in large numbers.
In grateful appreciation of the improvements being made, I am
Yours for highways,
GENERAL HAYWOOD.

Home Makers and Business Firms
Dear Folks:—
Now, they tell me that the city fathers have never been quite so stirred up about the dirt in the village as they are this spring. They are going after cleaning up the town in grand style.
So get out your brooms and your dust mops, and go after every nook and corner, and don't forget to sweep behind all the doors.
From the attic to the basement, in every cubby hole and closet, get out the trash and the rubbish, to cooperate with the great Spring Clean Up, which is being staged.
Now, when a man who knows North Carolina as well as Carl Goerch makes the statement that amusing . . . Congratulations to the seniors and their director, Miss Hester Ann Withers, on their play Friday night . . . We have heard many colorful native expressions, but a new one on us this week . . . from a person owing an obligation to the person trying to collect . . . "Just charge it to the ground and let the rain settle it!" . . .

Waynesville is the cleanest town in the state, we are out on the spot. We simply have to keep up the reputation he has given us. It is no small thing to have Carl Goerch give us such fine publicity.
Strain a point to paint up, and if you can't, apply the elbow grease to that old wood work, until it looks almost like new paint.
And this rat campaign that is being put on by the health department is a mighty fine thing. We have always had too many of the pesky things about the premises, and now that so many folks are "allergic to cats" and no longer have a good old-fashioned mouser on the place, we need some sort of campaign more than ever.
Yours for Spring Cleaning,
GENERAL HAYWOOD.

Money Talks

By
FREDERICK STAMM
Economist Director of Adult Education, University of Louisville.

It may seem as if the American farmer has not benefited from this war as he did from the last one; the war in Europe has shrunk, rather than expanded, the export demand for American farm products.
The exports of tobacco and fruits have been particularly hard hit. Exports of pork, lard and cotton have been far below expectation. Wheat prices have moved up partly because of poor crop conditions here, in South America and in Europe.
It is clear the French and British are buying Australian, Argentinian, and Canadian grain and South African and Brazilian cotton to feed and clothe their soldiers.
Why have the Allies purchased

Thank You, Mr. Goerch

The following taken from the last issue of "The State" magazine will be of interest to this community:

"Free boost for the town of Waynesville, up in Haywood County.

"We were talking to three men last Sunday who spend a goodly portion of their time traveling over North Carolina. We asked them which town, in their opinion, was the most attractive and cleanest in the entire state.

"All three agreed on Waynesville.
"We concurred with them."

With the annual clean up campaign just ahead and the date all set by the city fathers, the above should be a challenge to keep up the good work.

Getting Nearer

There is no need to kid ourselves. The war is getting nearer to the United States. Whether or not we will eventually be involved in active participation can not be definitely known at this time, but we do know that America will be vitally affected by the results of the war now in progress.

War correspondents claim that more than half the population of the world, or, to be exact, 55 per cent of the world's population, live in the countries that are now at war.

We can boast of our independence, and hands off, and none of us wants to be drawn in, but, nevertheless, the war is nearer to us than most of us like to admit.

England is across the ocean from the United States, but to the north of us lies Canada, and the possibility, if not a probability, of a German victory over England gives rise to thoughts we do not like to dwell upon.

New Job Seekers

The roll of unemployed will increase some 1,750,000 when commencements throughout the nation are over, as that number of boys and girls will leave high schools and colleges. They will start looking for jobs.

In the majority of cases it will be a hit or miss proposition, as far as preference and training for any special work is concerned. Most of the youths have had no guidance in seeking or preparing themselves for any definite kind of work.

The boy may drift from job to job until he finds his life work, or he may never find it. The same case may be met by the girl. Which all comes back to the urgent need of some job guidance.

The necessity for this growing need has been felt for some time, and the schools and the government are instituting aids.

Surveys are being made in various communities which will give the youth some idea of the type of work he will be able to find. With such a list the young job seekers would know what jobs are available, and the wages he could expect to receive.

On the other hand, the need for developing the latent talents of the boy or girl remains with the parents and the teachers as it has always, for to them is thrown much of the responsibility of "guiding the youth."

Ben Franklin's Reason

When Benjamin Franklin proposed, in May 1787, that the sessions of the Constitutional Convention be opened with prayer, he was asked to explain the reason for his request.

"If a sparrow cannot fall without God's knowledge," replied the great philosopher-statesman, "how can an empire rise without His aid?"—Desert News, Salt Lake City, Utah.

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