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North Carolina PRESS ASSOCIATION

THURSDAY, MAY 16, 1940

A County Fair

We were much interested in the reaction from the meeting held last week for a discussion of the promotion of a county fair for Haywood.

We like the manner in which the movement is being approached. We commend the ideas that have been advanced for the type of fair contemplated. We like the idea of a fair built upon constructive lines for developing agriculture and industry, rather than building it upon the thought of amusements.

While we recognize the fact that no county fair is complete without its amusement features and its holiday spirit, we do not want this phase to be the major theme. We also want the amusements censored before they are opened to the public in order that they will be decent for our children to visit.

We feel, as do the leaders of the movement, that developments along the lines of agriculture and industry in Haywood County during the past few years have reached such a peak that it would do well to exhibit these accomplishments in a concrete manner so that the public in general may take stock of the county's progress.

We were surprised at the long list of possible entries that were given at the meeting, which gave convincing evidence that we have much in the county to put on display.

Such a fair as we feel sure could now be staged in Haywood County would not only be a stimulus to local citizens, but would be bound to attract outsiders and demonstrate the many fields of industry that are being developed and the potentialities of other correlated projects with present activities.

We like the idea of the permanency of the movement in the proposed ownership and operation of the fair by the county. No successful fair can be staged unless it is undertaken with the intention of making it permanent and operated on a sound business basis.

It is going to take a lot of hard work to establish a legitimate fair in Haywood, since the past few have been temporary in scope and built too much around carnivals.

In fact, they were not fairs, but more of a legalized gambling and vulgar side-show exhibition, operating under the name of a fair, with but one or two small tents with hastily thrown together exhibits of secondary nature and importance. To such things, this newspaper is bitterly opposed.

With co-operation and stick-to-it-iveness there is ample time now to get things underway for the opening next fall.

There is no reason why, here in Haywood, the most well-balanced county in Western North Carolina, we cannot have an outstanding educational county fair.

Tired Of Liquor?

Johnston County was one of the first counties in North Carolina to establish ABC stores. Reports from the county have shown the ABC board has been paying huge sums into the county treasury, but, in spite of this, 6,500 voters recently signed a petition asking for an election on the question of whether the county shall continue to operate ABC stores.

This election in Johnston County on June 29 will in some respects be of more interest than the May 25th primary. This is the first such election since the return of legalized liquor in the State, and all counties, whether with or without ABC stores, will watch with interest the outcome. The decision of the Johnston County voters will prove a lot, regardless of which way they vote. Their actions will be far-reaching.

Stiffer Sentences Needed

The general assembly of 1935 enacted a law which required all North Carolina motorists to have a driver's license. On the first of May of this year, licenses had been granted to 1,040,955 drivers.

Since the first license was issued until May 11, there have been 27,573 drivers who have had them revoked for one cause or another, but the majority for drunken driving. About one out of every 37 motorists who have been granted licenses has been denied the right to drive a car because of violation of the law.

Motorists who get under the wheel drunk know before hand that they are liable to lose the right to drive on the state highways, yet every day there are many who do it. The releases sent out from Raleigh listing the revocation of licenses list whole pages where the charges are all for driving drunk.

Apparently, the lone fact of losing a right to drive a car is not sufficient to keep drunken drivers off the highways. The rate of increase proves that.

It now seems that the matter rests with the courts in passing heavier sentences instead of meager fines on such persons. Many a person cares but little for a fine, but the very thought of a sentence on the roads or in prison brings about a different attitude.

The Price Of Speed

It has recently been reported from abroad that for every four pilots killed as a direct result of combat six lose their lives because their judgment suddenly becomes faulty or their bodies refuse to take the strain.

This is being called "pilot failure" and has raised the question as to whether the human mind and body are being taxed beyond their capacity by the speed and complexity of today's airplanes.

Some American authorities are claiming that "pilot failure" is accounting for six out of seven deaths among the pilots of the European war.

It brings up a serious point, for war at its best is cruel enough, but a combat that means six out of every seven seems too much to ask of a man.

Another Installment Plan

A little down, and a little paid out of every pay check, is the modern American way of doing business. Certainly it is the average American's method.

Not to be outdone, and not to become obsolete in their business methods, sixty-six great American railroads will inaugurate next Monday a travel credit plan.

The plan is very simple. You decide on the trip, which must cost over \$50. Make application at the ticket agent's window, and in 24 hours your ticket is waiting for you. After a glorious trip, you come back home and begin making the payments, along with all the other installments.

One feature about this travel on a credit plan is that there is no "down payment." Neither is collateral necessary—just the would-be traveler's signature. The traveler with a big trip in mind can include Pullman accommodations, all-expense tours, which include hotels and meals and some side trips.

And so, the slogan, "1940 Is Travel America Year," is not just an idle phrase. Whoever coined it apparently knew what he was about. Every advantage is given the traveler to go places, and we here in Western North Carolina should soon be aware of the fact.

What Next?

Things are happening so fast that it is hard for a weekly paper to carry the last news of the European situation.

Affairs have developed to a more distressing point than perhaps even the most pessimistic thought they would last September, when the war clouds burst over Europe.

Before this is read some new and drastic change of world-wide significance may have come. One thing seems certain—Hitler expects to bring matters to a close during the coming summer months and seal for perhaps generations to come the fate of European nations.

Hitler is bent on the conquest of Europe regardless of the cost or price of destruction of human lives and property.

With large English territories as our next-door neighbors, the situation to any thinking American is becoming more serious each day. It is evident that it will be difficult for England and France to hold their own against such fiendish fighting unless some aid is given them.

The next few weeks may bring the matter home to us in necessary, definite terms of action.

The question arises now in the minds of all thinking Americans: Suppose Hitler is successful, what next?

Here and There

—By—
 HILDA WAY GWYN

Time moves swiftly on... the New York World's Fair opened in April of 1939... with its theme "The World of Tomorrow"... and... alas, tomorrow has come all too soon... with its devastating changes... for 1940 the theme would have been almost too prophetic... we don't wonder that the officials decided to have a new theme... for 1940 they have chosen... "For peace and freedom"... much more timely... the press tells us that the tools for building tomorrow's world are still on display... that the great industrial companies are also showing the dramatic models which will someday completely revolutionize houses, transportation and communication... for improvements... tomorrow... the buildings are all put in spic and span condition... but that in 1940 the emphasis is to be on the human side of life... not material and mechanical... which shows how swiftly time moves on... and our attitudes turn right about face in a few short months...

Closer and closer... and darker and darker the war clouds loom... a new quota of garments to be sent by the local production committee of the Red Cross by the middle of June... now comes the call from headquarters for \$300 in money from the Waynesville chapter... as its part of the \$10,000,000 that is to be raised immediately for relief in warring nations... from day to day... the news from across the seas is more depressing... where will Hitler's dream end?... even if this county is not drawn into actual warfare... we cannot escape some effects of war... our economic situation is world wide through imports and exports... and trade... Holland and Belgium now invaded... the cities and the villages... calling on the Red Cross for aid... and to answer that call... we who live thousands of miles away will have to give support...

We note with interest that the birthplace of President Andrew Johnson in Raleigh is at last being taken seriously as a place of historical significance... for so many years it was neglected... in 1904 the Raleigh chapter of the Colonial Dames bought the place for \$100 and gave it to the city... it was moved to Pullen Park... a rather bad location near the railroad tracks... from which the sparks from passing locomotives might have set it afire any time... it seems to have some charm against fire... having been exposed to several fires in the neighborhood... now through the interest of the North Carolina Society for the preservation of antiquities and the art projects division of the WPA... this birthplace of one of the presidents of the United States will be preserved... and opened to the public six days each week... we are glad of the belated appreciation of this historical house...

Briefs about town... Banker Jonathan Woody looking mighty serious since his return from the state bankers convention... Joe Gay's antique shop open for the season... the lawn of Mrs. Chas. R. Thomas cut and trimmed in its usual immaculate form... little Linda Sloan beaming over her new baby brother... Jimmy Neal, while not complaining, says with a smile that he hasn't had much sleep for the past six weeks... high school band begins their three hour daily practice on second floor over community center... it looks good to see General Harley B. Ferguson getting the grounds of his home in order... politicians all in a last minute flutter... for time is getting short... Donald Dunham planting his flowers and vegetables... that make his place a beauty spot on Main street... visitors arriving at the Country Club... golf course looks like mid summer on Sunday afternoons... Prospect Hill open for the summer... from paint and spring cleaning giving new life about the village and promises of a great tourist season... Grandfather Tom Stringfield looking mighty important over his first grandchild... and who wouldn't over a nine pound grandson...

We were speaking of the storm and stress of life today, of the hurry of things... and the following was contributed for us to use as typical of the donor's idea of getting away from people and things to find peace... we regret we do not know the author's name... but here it goes... "I'm a settin' in my cabin door... better off than any King... cause I ain't bothered about a war... or nor such foolish things... I've got the garden planted... and the hens is layin' good... and over in the wood shed is a right smart stack of wood... and sometimes in the evenin'... when all is sweet and still... the Lord comes down and talks to me... He knows me

WATER WINGS OVER EUROPE



Voice of The People

Henry Francis—"I think it is a fine idea. I feel that Haywood County should have a fair."

T. G. Massie—"I think a county fair would be a big boost to Haywood County."

W. D. Ketner—"I think it would be a good thing to have a county fair. It would help in promoting agriculture and cattle and many other industries."

W. A. Bradley—"I think a county fair would be one of the finest things that could happen to develop the cattle and farming industry in Haywood County. I hope we have one."

D. O. Platt—"I think a county fair is one of the best things a county can have. It stimulates the people to grow better crops and have better stock."

W. T. Shelton—"I am very much in favor of a county fair. I think it is one of the most progressive movements that could be made at this time. The livestock of Haywood County has never been as good

since the old county fair of many years ago, as it is today. If the Indians of Cherokee can have a fair that attracts thousands of people there is no reason why Haywood County could not do so. In fact any township in the county if they set forth the same effort could have a fair as good as the Cherokee Indian fair."

S. J. Moody—"I am in favor of a county fair. I think it would be a fine thing to start again in the county."

M. O. Galloway—"I think it would be a fine thing. I would approve the county buying the land and the fair association operating it. And I would like to see it kept out of politics as much as possible."

J. W. Killian—"President of the Chamber of Commerce—I think it is one of the best things that the town and the county can do. The Chamber of Commerce will be behind the movement 'body and soul.'"

J. E. Barr—"I think a county fair is a good thing. It is more or less educational. It gives people some entertainment, and it is good for people to get together."

Letters To The Editor

Editor The Mountaineer:
 Hearty congratulations on the distinctive honor paid you by the Western North Carolina Press association.
 These honors are well deserved. More of them to you.
 Cordially yours,
E. W. GUDGER.
 New York City
 May 7, 1940

Editor The Mountaineer:
 Thought you would be interested in seeing a copy of the letter mailed today.
 Yours truly,
W. L. HARDIN, JR.

Division of Highway Safety, State Highway Department, Raleigh, N. C.
 My dear Sir:
 I am attaching an editorial clipping from our good paper, The Waynesville Mountaineer, which I am confident expresses the feeling of indignation of the people of North Carolina.
 This letter never would have been written had the identical performance not been repeated Saturday, May 11th, 1940, when another motorcade passed through our good little town, the streets filled with Saturday traffic and pedestrians. When it reaches the point where our highway patrol has no regard for the safety of its citizens, and especially its children whether it be my little boy and girl or my neighbor's little children then it is time for us to follow the Nazi method of invasion. This motorcade headed by one of your patrolmen in a patrol car that belongs to the citizens of North Carolina, came down our Main street, and we are proud of our little Main street, it has been estimated by numerous eye witnesses making at least forty miles per hour, with siren blowing disregarding the safety of all people. What does... He calls me Bill... we don't talk much religion... about birds and flowers... and He never once mentioned some of the things I did... as in my quiet corner... fur from the rush and stir... I've found a bit of the peace that the whole world's huntin' fur...

Noted Artist To Form Art Colony In This Section

Mrs. Anne E. Luke, who for the past two years has been teaching at the St. Petersburg Art center, is here to establish an art colony in this section.
 She has leased the home of Miss Fannie Pearl Campbell on the Soco Gap road, and plans later to open a studio in Waynesville.
 Mrs. Luke is an artist in her own right as well as an art teacher. She is a graduate of Wesleyan college and the Cooper Union Art school of New York City. Before going to St. Petersburg, she was president of the Art League of Manatee county. She exhibited in St. Petersburg and her works are to be found in many important collections throughout the nation.
 Alan Shaw, director of the St. Petersburg Art center, speaking on behalf of the 40 artists and students present, at a farewell luncheon, complimented Mrs. Luke on her success as an art teacher. He wished her every success in her new venture. Mrs. Luke in reply thanked Shaw and those present. "You have all become my friends," she said, "and in the pursuit of art friendliness is essential."
 The seers are already predicting the coming of war to the U. S. Complete, no doubt, with Sunday excursions into the battle zones, peanuts, hot dogs and colored pennants for each army.
 your safety program amount to in gaining the good intention of the cause.
 If the officer heading this motorcade was acting on his initiative, then he should be severely reprimanded, if his commanding officer issued such instructions, he should be accorded the same reprimand. Your good organization should publicly apologize to the Mayor of this Town of Waynesville for violating the sovereignty of this municipality, because if at some future date an accident occurs involving a death, it won't be an accident.
 The writer is bringing this to your attention not wholly bitter, but with the hope it will remedy this evil.
 Sincerely yours,
W. L. HARDIN, JR.

Stewart Says—

Smaller Majority In Senate May Be Boon To Democrats

By CHARLES P. STEWART
 Central Press Columnist
 Basing his forecast on predictions from pre-conference marines, Senator John G. Townsend of Delaware predicts big gains for the Democrats in the coming year.



John G. cant prophesy that Republicans will lose a majority this year, however, a Democratic senator so says today that the G. O. P. group will be outvoted, even if every seat that is at stake is Townsend's. He says that he maintains that his state transformed into a major party in 1938.

What the Delaware senator doesn't mention is the fact that the Democratic vote considerably strengthened in the 1938 election, if their propaganda cut down somewhat.

Danger of Split
 There's such a thing as a heavy majority in a legislature. It tends to split and is used to be the case with the Democrats lately. They have a Democratically-labeled, which has better friends than the Republicans than with the Democrats.

The same condition has existed in the house of representatives, though not quite so complete as in the senate.
 But when a party is in a minority or in only a skippy majority it usually sticks together. The truer of a skippy majority of an outright minority, a minority can afford to quarrel internally. It doesn't lose any sympathy; it's a minority anyway, skippy majority though, it divides all its advantage if it divides.

May Gain Solidarity
 So if the Democrats materially reduced next November they're likely to gain in solidarity.
 For the sake of argument, pose a Republican is elected next autumn and suppose a Republican house of representatives. Nevertheless, have on his hands a Democratic senate until 1942 at the earliest. That Democratic senate, if having suffered a severe defeat, is virtually certain to be as vocally Democratic as a Republican majority. A Republican president, as a fix, will have a politically unstable two years of it.
 If a Democrat wins the presidency, with a Republican house of representatives, while hanging onto the senate, it couldn't help but do some pretty manageable congressional deal with.

House of Representatives
 Representative Johnson is harder to calculate than the electoral ones.
 Only 32 senate seats are filled or refilled this year. The various prospects can be closely scrutinized, but the representatives' respective fortunes are overly widespread to be so. Congressman Joseph W. E. R. Republican leader in the house, asserts that the G. O. P. will scoop in a majority course, the Democrats may lose seats versus 260 Democrats (miscellaneous) do score what it will involve a big turnover.
 As to the representative body, largely a matter of guesswork. For that matter, the whole thing, from the presidency to down, in normal times some reasonable fair surmising can be made, not with blitzkrieg.

MARRIAGES

Ernest Lee to Allie Salko of Waynesville.
 Ben Murray to Carrie Hester, both of Canton.
 Frank Ingram to Leta Garner, both of Lake Junaluska.
 Frank Hemphill to Marion Bright, both of Marion.
 Levi Haynes to Betty Egan, both of Canton.
 Spring is the season for the energetic amateur gardener, faithfully clearing his weeds, clearing the way for the 1940 crop of same.