

The Mountaineer

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THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1940

An Unfinished Job

In an article containing certain pertinent questions and answers relative to the present status of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, published in this week's issue, we suggest that our readers go over the answers very carefully which were given by Chas. E. Ray, Jr.

Everyone recognizes the fact that the United States government is a generous government. The authorities try to give the people what they want. But after citizens have made certain requests they must still prove to the authorities that the things they ask for are really needed and are meritorious.

To obtain the establishment of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was a tremendous undertaking. It took years of hard work on the part of the citizens of both North Carolina and Tennessee before the conservation of the scenic area became a reality.

Getting the Park established, and then getting it developed, however, are two distinctive jobs. We did exceedingly well on the first in North Carolina. It was no small task to raise the money, which was not only appropriated by the state, but much of which also came out of the pockets of generous citizens.

On the second job we have fallen down in a manner, which as the years pass, is now showing up in no uncertain phases. Whether it has been due to indifference or lack of realization of the situation we do not dare say. For the citizens have had great pride in the park and have publicized it on every available piece of printed matter.

While we have wasted a lot of time, we had better begin to study the situation seriously and get busy, for it is imperative that the entrances in this section into the Park be developed; to make the area complete for the benefit of the traveling public as well as for remunerative reasons for the local people.

Aside from the definite project of developing the entrances in this immediate vicinity, every citizen in Western North Carolina should lend his efforts in furthering the development of the Museum, which has possibilities of becoming one of the major attractions of the Park.

A Few Months Ago

The past year has been an eventful one from a historical standpoint. It has also marked vast changes in the viewpoint of the average American citizen.

One year ago, we felt a million miles away from the possibility of war. Too many of us could remember the World War and the futility of the price we paid. We were determined never again to be misled into conflict.

But events have gradually changed our point of view, as they have before. Step by step the present attitude on the part of the majority of people has come; that is, if necessary we must enter the fight. It seems almost unbelievable that such a great change has come about in such a short length of time.

Along with this same attitude about the war has come a new viewpoint on the third term for President Roosevelt. The ideas seem to have gone hand in hand. Men who were almost vehement at the thought of breaking the precedent set by George Washington are now quietly "eating their own words" of a few months earlier, and are openly saying that it would not be best to change presidents at this critical time.

Which all goes to show how fixed ideas can banish overnight with a change of viewpoint.

Roaming Rampant Bob

We have a suggestion to make for our junior senator in Washington. In fact, an invitation. Now that the world does not seem an inviting place in which to roam, we think it would be a fine thing for Senator Robert Rice Reynolds to come home when Congress adjourns this time.

He has seen the world and knows a great deal about European conditions. (?) You may recall many of his prophecies of last year, and his innocent faith in the peaceful attitude of the now warring nations toward each other.

But there are realms here at home that he might do well to explore. Let him find out what has been happening in his own state since he has been "riding high" up in Washington and on the high seas to foreign ports. A lot has taken place that might surprise the Senator.

Roaming rampant Robert has had a lot to say during his stay in Washington, but most of it has left his constituents back home "cold." His vision has been almost too far reaching. For, after all, he was sent to Washington to look after the interests of North Carolina and not what goes on in the Eastern hemisphere.

It is commendable for a person to be well informed about current international affairs. It is indeed a sad plight to live in this world and be utterly indifferent about other nations, and what the neighbors are doing, but it is also deplorable to let one's interest wander so far from base, that "home ties" are neglected.

Then the Senator's ideas on military affairs might also be needed. For there is no doubt that the Senator possesses keen insight into the strategy of a nation in preparation for war. He might be very useful here in the United States working out a defense program.

The junior senator would do well to come home and go over Western North Carolina again, and see first hand just what is needed here at home. It has been opening charged that he has failed to cooperate in getting this area of the state before the proper authorities in Washington for further development.

We appeal to the Senator's love of the "limelight." The stage is set for him to play a major role in affairs back home. We hope he seizes the golden opportunity.

The President's Views

The New York Times recently had an editorial on universal compulsory military training in the United States. President Roosevelt is reported to have read but one paragraph but was high in his praise of the sentiment.

The opening paragraph, which he read said: "The time has come when in the interest of self protection, the American people should adopt a national system of universal compulsory military training. We say this as a newspaper that has never before believed in the wisdom of such a policy in time of peace, but we say it because the cycle of events drives us remorsefully to the logic of this conclusion."

Another Line Of Defense

Last week the American Medical Association at its meeting in New York made plans to offer its 117,000 doctors for military service and at the same time to provide adequate medical service at home, in case of emergency. There are about 160,000 doctors in the United States.

The doctor is accustomed to battle fronts, for the average physician faces some crisis of life and death each each day in his routine practice.

There will no doubt be plenty of work for the doctors, even if this country stays out of active participation in the conflict, for the devastated countries in Europe will be filled with physical suffering brought on by lack of proper food and living conditions.

We commend the doctors for their action. We like to think of them as fearless always in the face of danger, for we trust them every day with our lives.

Long May He Live

Last week Congress sent to President Roosevelt a bill for his signature relative to protection of the American Eagle.

The bill set forth that capture or killing of the bird would carry a \$500 fine or six months' imprisonment.

The eagle was explained by the bill as being "no longer a mere bird of biological interest but a symbol of American ideals of freedom."

We trust that the protection of this bird of national recognition will be a sacred trust with the American citizens, who are faced today with other grave problems of "freedom."

Here and There

—By—
HILDA WAY GWYN

As we have remarked before, there is something so sinister about the present war . . . if you are old enough to remember how different it is from the last World War you are impressed . . . even before we were drawn into it . . . there floated across the Atlantic . . . (and not by radios either) . . . the strains of . . . "It's a long way to Tipperary, It's a long way to go . . . It's a long way to Tipperary, to the sweetest girl I know" . . . it was tuneful . . . and it brought the English Tommy very close to us . . . with his ideas of war and gallantry . . . along with the principles for which he was fighting . . . and when we got into the fight . . . we produced songs that echoed from coast to coast . . . in every home . . . and on the marching lines here and "over there" . . . we tried to send the boys across with good cheer . . . and when they left home . . . we smiled and sang . . . "Pack up your troubles in your old kit bag" . . . and "It's a long, trail winding into the land of my dreams" . . . but not so in the present war . . . there is no time for songs . . . the feeble effort of the one of last fall about "Hanging out the wash on the seagird line" . . . was outdated before it was hardly sung . . .

There is something even about the streamers across the newspapers that cry out the last word . . . that have a finality that strikes terror to the soul . . . even to us so many miles away . . . the modern methods of warfare seem to destroy the personal element of the courage in heroism . . . against the onslaught of the present attack from an air raid . . . another thing that seems very strange . . . for the crowned heads of Europe to seek America for protection . . . when only a few centuries ago our forefathers were leaving Europe to get away from the rule of crowned heads . . . there is both pathos and irony in their trekking to America . . . we are thinking of Princess Juliane of the Netherlands . . . who with her two small children fled to England and is now in Canada . . . Another rather pathetic gesture is the publicity about whom Princess Elizabeth of England will marry . . . from present prospects . . . it looks as if she might have the democratic privilege of marrying to suit herself . . . and find happiness with some commoner . . . for diplomatic alliances with other royal heads that would have been the old order . . . will be changed . . . but we see the point . . . it helps the British people to still carry on . . . to think of such things . . . a boost to their morale . . .

When the people of the community went down in their pockets and generously contributed nearly \$2,000 for uniforms for the township high school band . . . it is just too bad that they did not take out weather insurance . . . when the uniforms were purchased . . . on Memorial Day, when they were scheduled to play before the ceremonies at Greenhill took place it rained them out . . . their first appearance in uniform . . . on last Sunday when they were to give an hour's concert on the court house lawn . . . the rains descended again . . . we trust that on next Sunday when they are to play on Haywood County Day at Lake Junaluska . . . a concert again in the open . . . that the skies will be blue and the sun shining . . .

The following contribution by Mrs. J. N. Shoobred was given for the benefit of thrifty housewives . . . it should have reached us in time for last week's issue . . . but perhaps it will reach you in time for the last crop . . . Strawberry preserves . . . (and if you have been lucky enough to eat some of Mrs. Shoobred's you know there are none better) . . . 2 cups of sugar . . . 1 cup of water . . . boil 5 minutes . . . add 2 more cups of sugar . . . and boil 10 minutes more . . . then add 2 cups of berries and boil 10 minutes . . . Now add 2 more cups of berries and boil all 15 minutes . . . Keep the time after it starts to boil . . . then set off and let cool for 24 hours . . . stirring several times during the 24 hours, put up cold . . . cover with paraffin . . . another recipe from Sarah Elmore . . . One heaping cup of fruit . . . a scant cup of sugar . . . put together and let simmer until syrup coats spoon . . . set off and cool for 24 hours . . . the mixture should be stirred occasionally during the 24 hours . . . can cold, put paraffin on top after putting in jars . . .

Another contribution of the week . . . REPAIRS . . . When people's cars get old and worn and then begin to toddle . . . they go somewhere and trade them in and get the latest model . . . Now I have often thought that when



Voice of The People

Do you approve of a national program of compulsory military training for the youth of America?

Lt. Paul Martin—"I favor compulsory military training not necessarily from a military standpoint, but from the matter of discipline and the ideals and standards for better living and efficiency that military training gives."

Walter Francis—"Yes, I do. If we had had such training in this country we would know more about our present problems that face America today."

W. C. Allen—"Yes, with certain reservations. I would not approve compulsory military training before college age."

Mrs. W. F. Swift—"Yes, I do. First, I think that military training is good discipline and in the case of emergency it is tragic to see boys without military training thrust into the ranks of the army. I will never forget some of the boys I saw at Camp Jackson during the World War."

A. W. Collins—"No, I do not approve compulsory military training. In a military school where a boy has been sent by his family, the training he receives there often gives him a distaste for such things. Later if he has to join the army he has a wrong outlook from the start."

Major J. Harden Howell—World War Veteran—"Yes. Military training develops physically, mental alertness, discipline, self confidence, leadership and inspires respect and loyalty to constitutional authority. It guarantees that men will not be sent to the front without knowing how to load a gun, or instructed in the minor fundamentals of self protection as was done in the World War."

Dr. J. C. Murphy—"Yes. Military training gives the youth a discipline and experience that can be found no where else, and when their country needs them they will be ready."

Howard Hyatt—"Yes, I do approve compulsory military training. The present crisis proves that it would have been the best policy for America."

W. A. Bradley—World War Veteran—"No, I don't think it is necessary. In the case of a national emergency I think there will always be plenty of volunteers, or they can be obtained by the draft."

C. E. Weatherby—"No, I do not approve of compulsory military training. I think it gives the youth of today the wrong viewpoint and takes away their sense of freedom."

Letters To The Editor

Editor The Mountaineer:—
 The enclosed article should be of interest to your subscribers. It was published in "The Fioretti," a Catholic periodical published by St. Mary's Academy of Milwaukee, under date of February 2, 1940. Ostensibly it was written by someone connected with St. John's Catholic School, Waynesville, and who should, shall we say, know better?
 J. G. HUGGIN, JR.

Waynesville Students Appreciate Books Sent As Part Of Catholic Action Literature Drive.

"They're right nice, them books," was the typical comment of the children of St. John's school, Waynesville, N. C., upon receiving books from the grade department Junior unit of the Catholic Students' Mission Crusade.

This was the latest literary gift to the school where Sisters Mary Cordea and Mary Ancilla, both formerly of St. Mary's, are now stationed. Books were also donated to them by the Senior C.S.M.C. unit, the Rev. George Regenfass, chaplain of the convent, and Sister Mary Carol, librarian at the Academy.

Gifts of clothes and money were also sent by the C.S.M.C. to help the needy families of the parish. Instead of exchanging Christmas gifts in homeroom 321, the sophomores under Sister Mary Elise donated the money thus saved to the missions, sending a contribution to St. John's. Especially grateful were

my joints get achy . . . And when my hair has all turned gray and knees are rather shaky . . . And when the onward march of time has left me rather feeble . . . How nice 'twould be, when feet give out, or we have damaged livers . . . If we could go and buy new parts just like we do for fivers . . . And when my form is bent with age and gets to looking shoddy . . . How nice 'twould be to trade it in and get a brand-new body . . . (By Chester Hampton . . .)

the Sisters for reading material that could be distributed as a forerunner to their religion classes.

Not literary, but still of great interest, is the story Sister Mary Inez, teacher of the grammar grades here has to tell. "As we drove through the town, people stopped their horses in the street and stared at us open-mouthed. 'What's them' they would say.' Sister Inez smilingly remarked in relating the experiences of both herself and Sister Mary Jean, instructor at St. Clare college, the two first religious Waynesville had ever seen. Sister Inez and Sister Jean spent four weeks teaching summer school in the Protestant town and encountered many such interesting and amusing incidents.

It is not strange that these people have never seen Sisters before, because the state of North Carolina is one of the most non-Catholic areas in the United States. Out of a population of 3,000,000 there are only 8,500 Catholics, not even one-third of one per cent, or less than the percentage of Catholics in China.

There is only one priest, the Rev. Ambrose Rohrbacher of Milwaukee, to the 3,500 square miles which comprise his parish, perhaps the largest parish in area in the United States. It includes eight counties with a population of 110,000, of which only 50 or one out of every 2,200 persons are Catholic. There are 50 counties in the state with no Catholic church at all, and where there is a church, the average congregation consists of 35 persons.

Although the parish is called St. John's church, Mass is said in the rectory as there is no church building or chapel. In visiting his parishioners, Father Rohrbacher covers 114 miles and says Mass in private homes of six different towns. His ambition is to build a church near the entrance of the Great Smoky Mountains National park on the Cherokee Indian reservation, to provide an opportunity for the tourists to hear Mass.

While St. John's summer school had 30 pupils, 15 were Negroes of either Baptist or Methodist persuasion. Religion was not taught in school, but special instruction was given to all who wanted to attend.

Stewart Says

Wilkie-Roosevelt Debate Idea Feels Third-Term Boost

By CHARLES P. STEWART
 Central Press Columnist
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