

The Mountaineer

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W. CURTIS RUSS Editor
 MRS. HILDA WAY GWYN Associate Editor
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THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 1940

Another Farm Tour

We are gratified to learn that the county farm agents are planning another out-of-the-state farm tour. There is nothing that gives greater inspiration than to find out first hand how the other fellow is doing the same thing we are.

The progress that has been made in better farming practices in Haywood County during the past few years is steadily going forward.

The man engaged in scientific methods is convincing his doubtful neighbor of the merit by the results of his methods. His crops are more luxuriant and his prices and profits are growing.

We feel sure that at least part of the interest that has been shown during the past year in improving the cattle industry of the county can be attributed to the visits made by the sixty odd farmers who went on the tour last year into Virginia and Tennessee.

On the tour they also found out many advantages of their own section, as compared with other localities, which gave them a realization of the possibilities of Haywood County.

Dewey Blows Off

The tirade of Thomas Dewey, which was given a nation-wide broadcast on Friday night, will hardly be received by any patriotic American, with any degree of enthusiasm.

The bitter partisanship which characterized his address has no place at this time in American government. To accuse the present administration, and especially the president of deliberately trying to plunge the United States into war, in order to enhance party prestige, or personal ambition can only be received in a tragic time, which now exists, with disgust and contempt, for the person who gives utterance to such a sentiment.

Unless the people of the United States are willing to condemn President Roosevelt as a traitor to his country which we are far from believing that they are willing to do, all that Mr. Dewey has accomplished in his tirade is to brand himself as a petty politician of the most dangerous type.

Minor issues must be put aside. It is no time for the playing of political games. Purely domestic problems lose their importance as the desperate situation of all world democracies is realized. In national leadership we need more today than apparently Mr. Dewey can give the nation.

Abolishing Counties

Governor Leon G. Phillips, of Oklahoma, is said to nourish an ambition to reduce the expense of government by consolidating counties.

Undoubtedly, the governor has logic and efficiency on his side. Practically everybody in the United States agrees that there are too many counties. Originally developed in the era before the horse-and-buggy days, there is no reason for the counties except the unwillingness of the average citizen to permit his county to be merged with another and the ambition of county politicians to continue their terms in office.

Sooner or later, most of the states of the Union will reform their county lines to fit with modern transportation and communication facilities. What used to be an overnight trip for citizens in a county is now a matter of a few hours at the most. Regardless of the reason that suggests county consolidation, the chances are that county pride, plus the pressure of county-seat towns and cities, coupled with motives mentioned above, will be strong enough to stave off this desirable reform for many years.—Forest City Courier.

39 Days Conquest

Diary of the "thirty-nine days" conquest of France:

May 10—Germany invaded Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg.

May 16—Battle of Meuse; open warfare between Namur and Sedan.

May 21—Germans reached Arras and Amiens; Reynaud told France senate of "incredible mistakes which would be punished."

May 23—Germans encircled allied army; seized Abbeyville; heavy fighting at Boulogne.

May 28—Belgian army capitulated on Leopold's order.

June 4—Prime minister revealed 335,000 allied troops rescued from Dunkerque.

June 9—German reconnaissance units reached outskirts of Rouen.

June 11—Germans reached Seine.

June 12—German capture of Rheims.

June 14—Germans entered Paris; French withdrew to save city from destruction.

June 17—Marshal Petain announced "France must give up the fight."

Here and There

—By—
 HILDA WAY GWYN

Sandwiched in between the depressing news of the past week was the following headline . . . "Sixteen regain sight at Blind School here" . . . (meaning Raleigh) . . . from darkness into light . . . the touch of the surgeon's sure hand . . . had accomplished miracles . . . the story told of how blindness had come gradually through the growth of cataracts, the dimness of twilight had cut out vision . . . how the people were gathered from different sections of the state . . . those who could not afford the services of a specialist of this kind . . . and were brought through the efforts of the state Blind Commission to Raleigh for these delicate operations . . . the unbounded joy of seeing again . . . and the reaction of the blind who were made to see, brought vividly to us . . . what it means to be deprived of the privilege of sight . . . also in the story was brought out the latest discovery in eye surgery . . . the transfer of the cornea from the eye of a dead person to the eye of a live one, whose sight had been destroyed . . . and it seems that a North Carolina doctor is now making a study of this new operation . . . and the thought came . . . suppose the discovery proves successful . . . of the happiness that would come throughout the land to those who are doomed to "see through touch and sound alone, the beauties of this earth."

Which reminded us of the splendid work that is being done right here in Waynesville by the Lions Club . . . who are making it possible for those who for financial reasons would have no relief from defective sight . . . to have examinations made and glasses fitted . . . The Mountaineer office has been designated as a place to receive used frames . . . by the club . . . and the number that have brought in show how much interested the public is toward this project of the Lions . . . if the club did nothing else, this one service is sufficient reason for their organization. . .

Shortly after we had heard a spirited conversation about age limits for working . . . and such . . . when a person should retire . . . how age sometimes showed up in one's work . . . and so on . . . and then the other side . . . which included a list of the great who had acquired greatness and held positions of responsibility after the retirement age . . . we were handed the following clipping which shows up the spunk of an olderster in contrasting yesterday and today that might make the youngsters sit up and take notice . . . "Not old . . . an old man appeared at one of the eastern interment points in search of a job . . . asking if he was still able to do a good day's work . . . despite his years . . . he replied with emphasis . . . 'Yes, by grabs . . . I wasn't raised on popicles and ice cream cones . . . and soda pop like the young fellows nowadays; I was raised on corn bread and beans, and the fear of God and six days' work, and no work on Sunday . . . and I ain't runnin' from no job nor no work yet.' . . . we hope he got the job. . .

Isn't it amazing how we consider certain qualities . . . and how circumstances and conditions shape our judgments . . . while it may be a bad disposition and a plain case of temper in the average person . . . it is temperament, merely showing, if you are an artist . . . what might be called indecent in the average working girl . . . would be termed modern and broad-minded in the debutantes whose father owned half the town . . . what is called shrewd business sense in the rich man . . . is often termed crookedness in the small business man . . . we speak of flag waving in times of peace and safety . . . but in days when the country is at war . . . we call it patriotism . . . if the girl goes after the man she wants and misses him . . . she is said to have "thrown herself at him disgracefully" . . . whereas if she leads him successfully to the altar . . . her efforts are overlooked. . .

In an interview with a traffic cop . . . we read the following story . . . perhaps you did too . . . the officer stated that you simply couldn't reason with a female . . . if you are tough with them they cry and when they cry . . . he claimed that it was "something terrible" . . . which of course any man knows . . . he doesn't have to be a traffic cop to understand the defense that a woman can put on with her tears . . . to illustrate how hard it is to get the best of a woman . . . the officer further related . . . that once on Park Avenue . . . a matron was stopped for speeding . . . and he waved her to pull to the curb . . . when he walked up to her he said very severely, "Where's the fire?" . . . and the matron gave him a regular love look and said . . . "In your beautiful big blue eyes" . . . and what could an officer do in a case like that . . . he asks. . .

1941 STAFF PROBLEM?



Voice of The People

Do you think that congress should remain in Washington continuously during the present war crisis, or that it should adjourn upon completion of its regular business and defense measure?

Mrs. W. T. Crawford—"I think that members of Congress should stay right where they are in Washington. Of course if they have to get off to attend conventions they might leave for a short time."

Jack Messer—"Under the present circumstances it might be the best for Congress to remain in session."

John L. Davis—"I think that Congress should remain in session until it can more clearly be seen how events are going to affect this country."

Jerry Colkitt—"By all means remain in session. World conditions are making such rapid changes that Congress should be in a position to meet the changes and study them immediately."

L. M. Richeson—"After Congress has passed the necessary defense measures, I think they should adjourn and leave the execution of

the measures to the defense board as set up by the President, and so capably headed by Messrs. William S. Knudsen and Edward R. Stettinius. There must not be any political wrangling, if we are to be quickly prepared to meet present world chaotic conditions, and the defense board should not be hampered with politics."

C. F. Kirkpatrick—"I think Congress should remain in Washington until something is definitely settled. The world is in too much of a turmoil at present for Congress to adjourn."

Mrs. Jack Elwood—"It seems to me that it is unnecessary for Congress to remain in session after the business at hand is completed, awaiting development of events. If they are needed the President could call them at a moment's notice."

Evander Preston—"I think that Congress should remain in session, in view of current events."

Mrs. S. P. Gay—"I feel that Congress should remain in session, with events happening so fast—their services should be available in case of an emergency."

Letters To The Editor

Editor The Mountaineer:—
 The article in "The Fioretti" of February 2, 1940, reprinted in your letter column last week, was written by Miss Dorothy Barczak, editor of "The Fioretti," student paper of St. Mary's Academy, Milwaukee.

The article was written without the knowledge of anyone connected with St. John's School.

Sincerely yours,
 A. F. Rohrbacher,
 Superintendent St. John's School.

CLARIFIED STATEMENT (By Telegram)

Editor The Mountaineer:—
 The following statement is appearing in the forthcoming issue of the Fioretti, of Milwaukee: "Relative to my story on St. John's School in The Fioretti, of February 2, 1940, I beg to advise our readers that an exaggerated impression may have been created concerning the characteristics of the mountain folk of Western North Carolina, inasmuch as individual cases are made to appear as general. I am impelled to make this statement after representations were made to me by native Western North Carolina folks or people who chanced to read my story."

DOROTHY BARCZAK,
 Editor The Fioretti, Milwaukee.

THE WRONG SPIRIT—AND THE WRONG LETTER

Editor, The Mountaineer:—
 I read with both interest and resentment the article in your issue of last week from a Catholic school publication in Milwaukee. And, being one of those unfortunate poor whites mentioned in this speech—well, that is a figure of most holy (?) publication, I would like to reply. Especially so after noting that this last "blitzkrieg" of misrepresentation and ridicule was about the same as former attacks. Diogenes said: "Of all wild animals, the worst is the slanderer." But now, we of the Southern highlands granting the "hoof and horn" story to be true, it will no more than match the apparent belief around Milwaukee that many of the natives around here go on all-fours. No, I am glad to say that, although

Stewart Suggests

What's Needed If National Defense Is To Materialize

By CHARLES P. STEWART
 Central Press Columnist
 WASHINGTON, June 26—two words account for the difficulties encountered in preliminary efforts to set up a working program for Heracles' real national defense.



Bernard Baruch

The two words are CO-OPERATION and CO-ORDINATION. Webster defines CO-OPERATION as "the act of cooperating; joint action or union in pursuit of a common purpose." The act of cooperating is the purchase or distribution for joint benefit."

And Webster defines CO-ORDINATION as "the act of coordinating; arrangement or adjustment in order to equal in rank or importance; harmonious relation or action."

Between the subtle differences in the definitions of these two words and divergent interpretations, government and industry are well apart.

Industry is asked to CO-OPERATE but shrinks from playing a subservient role with all the responsibility for the possible failure of governmental administration.

Industry is quite willing to CO-OPERATE in "harmonious relation or action" (in "harmonious relation or action"), thus sharing the importance and responsibility of government for performing a successful job.

Harshly Treated
 Industry feels that it has been harshly treated by the New Deal administration that now is in OPERATION, while retaining exclusively the co-ordinating power in bringing all the vast elements together and necessary for successful production.

The truth is that mutual trust exists between industry and the New Deal administration unless it is allowed to handle national defense during the World War suffered to no small extent because the War Industries Board proved cumbersome and was not until members of board including the cabinet, organized the outstanding and prior abilities of Bernard Baruch, the chairman, that the program attained full momentum.

Our present national defense program is operating under provisions of the law which the War Industries Board, having been no legislation since change the program and for reason it is argued in some quarters that possible error and might be avoided by naming other Baruch—in this case probably a Knudsen—to take as production dictator.

Henry Ford's Offer
 Henry Ford may have been willing with some less modesty to offer to produce 1,000 planes a month on a mass basis—but with the stipulation that government keep its hands ENTIRELY off. Henry Ford certainly knows and is merely spoiling the Deal administration.

And the New Deal administration, quite consistently, and politically may be expected to maintain, if it can, the same control over industry that has been its fundamental policy. President Roosevelt in his last side chat emphasized insistence on maintaining New Deal policies.

But whether they be maintained or must be somewhat altered to conform to the exigencies of national defense remains a problem.

But if in some manner two (CO-OPERATION and CO-ORDINATION) can be made to "co-operate and co-ordinate" in a satisfactory sense, our national defense program should be able to proceed under a full head of steam.

some of our people are hairy, we got off of our all-time long ago—long enough to be several years before Milwaukee even known, among them the War of Independence, the War of 1812, and the Mexican War. So, Editor, we insist that it's fair to place us back in the Neanderthal age of man—of raw flesh and roaming with the woods armed with a club.

The "Sisters" seem to think proof of our primitiveness and ignorance, that many of us had seen ice and gas—neither had seen the "Sisters" before.

As to the ice, I'll dimiss that simply saying that the weather is too ridiculous for knowledge since when did knowledge become a criterion or standard by which to judge the intelligence of people? Here in Haywood County we consider gas—gas all kinds—as being very cheap perhaps all too common.

And as to those primitive here who, when they saw the Sisters, stopped their horses and quired "What be them that?"

(Continued on page 1)