

The Mountaineer

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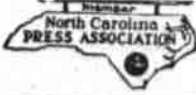
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1940

50 Years for Mr. Bridges

In this day of "rolling stones," it is hard to visualize one man sticking to a job fifty years—yet right here in our office, J. T. Bridges, better known as "Tom", is this week rounding out his 50th year.

Mr. Bridges was "an old hand" at printing before the present publishers were even born, yet he has been keen enough to go along with modern methods and modern equipment to remain a valuable man in the mechanical department throughout the years.

His loyalty is above reproach. He is always on the job ahead of time. He likes his work and cannot tolerate a loafer or time killer.

He has grown with the paper, and he gets as much thrill from having to get out larger papers as anyone in the entire organization.

During his years as a printer, he has taken many a young man "under his wing" and taught him the trade. Off hand, there are four that come to mind, and all are holding responsible positions—his oldest son, Henry, is a top ranking man in the composing room of the Charlotte Observer, while the foreman of the composing roof of the same newspaper, George Scott Coble, started in under Mr. Bridges. Down in Atlanta, A. E. Maxwell is in charge of all advertisement set ups for the Constitution, started off here, and in this plant, Marion T. Bridges is in charge of the mechanical department of The Mountaineer, which by the way, is the largest plant in North Carolina west of Burke County, exclusive of Asheville.

Mr. Bridges picked up the name "Maude" for the linotype machine he operates, and he and "Maude" have worked together for many years, putting millions of words into type for readers of The Mountaineer. He takes a keen pride in his machine, and prefers that no one bother it, but to do the work on the other linotype in the plant.

He enjoys his work. In fact, the hardest day of the week for him is his day away from the clicking linotype.

Livestock Show

First we wish to offer our congratulations to the farm agents and the progressive citizens of Haywood County in their staging of the Livestock Show, which opens this morning in the High School stadium.

Next we wish to congratulate the farmers and the stock growers on their high standard of cattle that has made such a show possible.

Haywood County has long been famous for its fine cattle. The depression brought down the standard for a few years, but we are glad to see that more pedigreed stock is being brought into the county with better and higher grade cattle being bred.

Such community affairs as the one today in showing what others are doing always lend stimulation, and will no doubt be a big factor in helping to improve the cattle of Haywood County for the coming years.

The exhibits offered are a credit to any county or community, and it is to be hoped that a record crowd will attend this splendid showing of high class animals.

By their presence they will give their approval of this good work. There is certainly no safer investment today to be made than a Haywood County farm stocked with good livestock.

Now's a good time to start worrying about next winter's coal bills—if you're short of worries.

It is too bad for some men that their wives won't believe their stories as quickly as their mothers.

Free Press

From October the 1st to October the 8th Newspaper Week is being observed throughout this country and in Canada. The theme of this week's observance is "The press constitutes the First line of Defense in the Battle for Maintenance of Democracy."

We are so accustomed to freedom of the press in America that most people do not realize what a privilege it is. Yet a review of conditions in countries abroad reveal beyond question what freedom this country enjoys.

The first thing every dictator does upon gaining power by constitutional means is systematically to throttle the newspapers. He cannot afford to let people read, think, and say what they please. He must mold public opinion. The press must do his bidding.

Every thinking American knows this of course. Every American knows that the rights and liberties he enjoys here are possible only because he would instantly know of any abuse of public trust through the columns of his local newspaper.

A free press and democracy are inseparable. Violate one and you crush the other. Silence one and you destroy the very foundation of the other.

We have learned one bitter fact "from the cauldrons of totalitarianisms into which have already been poured millions of live sacrifices; dictators don't begin by using the sword to delude their people. They first use the pen, making the columns of their newspapers the mouthpiece of their ill-directed lies and empty promises."

The newspaper you take for granted is the materialization of that Free Press for which men have fought and died. It is a factor in the economics of our community. To support and maintain it is to guarantee forever our American democracy.

Thanks to a free press the American people are the best informed in the world. Freedom of the press is guaranteed to the people by our Bill of Rights and this free government shall not perish as long as the people maintain a Free Press.

With a Free Press as our most powerful weapon against dictatorial despotism, there shall be no surrender for America and Americans.

"Surprise Party"

The "surprise party" staged by President Roosevelt at the ceremonies, which were a part of the laying of the cornerstone at an airport near Washington last week, must have been very impressive. It came at a very opportune time, following so closely on the heels of the German-Italian-Japanese pact.

We hope the powerful demonstration had the desired effect on the diplomats attending and will likewise be received with sober consideration by the citizens of the countries they represent.

It is said that the thousands had no more than settled in their seats when the "surprise" appeared, when from all directions of the compass came warplanes of the Army and Navy, pursuit ships, and high bombers—140 Army—168 Navy and Marine craft.

The president in part said, that "the roar of the planes was symbolic of our determination to build up a defense on sea, on land, and in the air capable of overcoming any attack. They represent in a small way the power we ultimately must have and soon will have."

"We hope their missions will always be in the ways of peace. We shall strive with all our energies and skills to see to it that they are never called upon for missions of war. But the more of them we have the less likely we are to have to use them—the less likely we are to be attacked from abroad."

It is significant that American citizens seem united in one great purpose, in their zeal and determination to build up a defense that will offer protection from attack. May this spirit of militarism that we must necessarily foster, never develop as that of Germany, but always remain one of defense, rather than one of conquest.

Pessimists may be disagreeable, but they usually give more sensible advice than optimists.

Germany's invasion of France was a push-over, but Britain is another chapter in the story of blitzkrieg.

Here and There

—By—
 HILDA WAY GWYN

We have as our guest this week a former citizen of Waynesville . . . Judge John Norwood . . . of the U. S. Federal Trade Commission, of Washington, D. C., son of the late Judge and Mrs. W. L. Norwood . . . no matter how many cases he settles for the commission he will always be "John" to the folks back home . . . a regular army man once . . . a Major . . . then he studied law . . . and was at one time an editor . . . he has had an interesting career that well fits him for his present post . . . author of "Trade Practice and Price Law" . . . which explains important old laws and new ones affecting business practices today . . . business men and professional men are finding it invaluable for every day use . . . last year he placed one in the Waynesville Library . . . Both John and "Miss Bird," his wife, claim that this is their favorite vacation spot . . . and we have reason to believe them . . . they prove it . . . for they return at every opportunity . . . and no wonder . . . for they always find a sincere welcome from their friends of years standing . . . we turn this space over to the Judge. . . .

"All Tar Heel Mountaineers are ready to sing the praise of this favored section . . . but the most enthusiastic of these are the folks whose duties have forced them to live in other lands, and who return each year to this mecca of grandeur, beauty and inspiration . . . One has to be without food awhile in order to know just how good a juicy steak is . . . at any rate native mountaineers and old friends serve to render a return visit a season of pleasure and spiritual rejuvenation . . . Coming up Hominy Creek or through the Cowee Gap on the way to Waynesville, I drop ten years from the age tally and never take back more than seven . . . so if I can keep this up I can loaf around in sight of the Plott Balsam for quite awhile. . . .

"Although New England still placards Mt. Washington in New Hampshire as the highest point east of the Rockies (or did year before last, some eighty or more years after Dr. Mitchell disproved such a claim) we have seven or more peaks in sight of each other in Western North Carolina and on the Tennessee border that are higher than Mt. Washington, which is 6,684; Clingman's Dome, 6,643; Guyot, 6,621; LeConte, 6,593; Richland Balsam, 6,540; Water Rock Knob, 6,400 and Jones Knob, 6,400. Two of these are in Haywood County, which has nine peaks of 6,000 feet or over. . . . These are Richland Balsam, Jones Knob, Black Knob, Plott's Balsam, Sam's Knob (Big and Little) Shining Rock, Rough Butt Bald, and Cold Mountain. . . . This may not be all of our 6,000 foot peaks . . . the fact is that Haywood County and immediate vicinity is the roof of the Eastern continent. . . . The section of the Parkway drive along the mountain crests between Wagon Road Gap, near Pisgah, westward to Beech Gap will equal the grade and magnificence of the Canadian Rockies, the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, or Niagara Falls. . . . This 12 to 15 mile section of the parkway will undoubtedly be recognized the world over as the high spot in the great system of scenic roads which are being opened for the health, enjoyment, and inspiration of the entire section. . . .

"There's one thing our folks ought to do in order to increase the pleasure and general impression which tourists get from their visit . . . we should have more POINTERS . . . both on the accessible tops of the mountains and along highways . . . on top of the tower on Mt. Mitchell there are pointers in all directions showing the principal peaks and points of interest. . . . People want to know the names of these peaks. . . . They feel closer to the country and will say more about it . . . if they are able to render the picture before them more definite and complete. . . . To know the name of a mountain and be able to identify it from two or more other peaks, makes an old friend of it . . . a visitor loves to point them out as Richland Balsam or Sam's Knob . . . it's part of the fun . . . so let's agitate this matter of more pointers with the altitudes stated thereon . . . many more . . . we should like to know what Jones Knob looks like from t'other side and maybe 50 miles away . . . Also the tops of Tennessee Bald and several other well known mountains should be cleared off . . . it's a cruel disappointment to climb to the top of these eminences to find the view obstructed . . . a "furriner" gets a very bad taste from such an experience. . . .

"While in Waynesville this summer I heard some one using the word "bureaucracy" with a finality that implied all that is undesirable, and which should be opposed . . . and questioning the user

THESE ARE MY JEWELS



Voice of The People

Would you approve the 1941 legislature passing a bill prohibiting the showing of carnivals in Haywood County?

Mrs. Paul Walker—"Yes, I certainly approve of such a bill. The people who often can least afford it, are the ones in the majority attending such affairs. Carnivals are also demoralizing to the young people."

Norman Caldwell—Traffic Officer "I do not approve such a bill. People should learn to take their amusement in reason and be taught to control themselves about gambling."

Clyde H. Ray Jr.—"I think it would be a good thing. Carnivals take too much money out of a community. And each year they seem to have a lower standard."

R. C. McBride—Manager Stovall's Five and Ten—"I would heartily approve the passage of such a bill."

E. P. Martin—Retired business man—"I certainly would approve. Carnivals tend to show everything bad and nothing good."

Mrs. George A. Kunze—President Haywood County Council of PTA—"I heartily disapprove of the recent carnival. But in the framing of a bill to prohibit carnivals in this county I would like to see the word defined, as there are harmless amusements that are often classed under this head. Some day we hope to have a county fair

in Haywood, and we will want some features that are clean, and are a necessary part of entertainment of a county fair."

Dr. R. H. Stretcher—"I think we could well do without carnivals, but if we do have them, I think that the law should be enforced as to the gambling features."

L. M. Richeson—"Absolutely and positively yes. It is estimated that the recent carnival took at least \$20,000 out of our county. Who knows but that many children will be the innocent victims of the needless expenditures in being deprived the added necessary things—especially needed with the onset of cold weather. The recent carnival was a disgrace to the good name of Haywood County. Some of the exhibits were filthy and obscene beyond description. If our fair county is going to permit such degrading affairs, then we will eventually revert to the caveman age—where every man will be himself and the devil for us all."

Frank Underwood—Abel's Garage—"I will heartily approve any legislative action taken to prevent carnivals and such things from stopping here. They are desperately wicked and degrading. We will be morally uplifting our community, by preventing them from coming here."

C. N. Allen—Merchant of Hazelwood—"I most certainly would approve of the passage of such a bill."

Topics of The Day

By JUDGE FRANK SMATHERS

"WE THE PEOPLE"

The apathy and slowness of Congress is appalling, the delight of dictators, and the despair of friends of Democracy.

Some of our national legislators are so busy looking in the mirror and into the galleries of Congress that they haven't time to look into the public mind and see what it thinks of them.

Others are so busy talking to the galleries and newspaper reporters that they haven't time for the more important business of national defense.

They are so busy playing the little game of politics that they haven't time for the big patriotic game of defending a great Democracy.

Is it any wonder that Herr Hitler ridicules with biting contempt and scorn, the vaunted force and efficiency of American Democracy,

I discovered that he was the victim of a disease called politico-suggestive-innuendo . . . the sufferer, by reason of the force of finality of a statement, or because the speaker belongs to a particular party accepts it without knowledge or reason . . . as a matter of fact those who start the hue and cry against "bureaucracy" and attempt to give it a sinister implication are people who resent and oppose regulation in behalf of the general public . . . they are serving their own ends and seeking to turn the people against their own instruments of public service . . . as between bureaucrats or autocrats, the former are better, as they are selected for public service and can be removed. Bureaus and Independent Agencies of Government are indispensable . . . it is the duty of the people to keep honest and efficient men in them . . . if that is not done, we should not acclaim against "bureaucracy" but against carelessness.

that sits and snores and debates and declaims while the world is aflame, and while there is smoke flaring from the very basement of the building in which they are sleeping?

If you attempt to curb or stop the flow of oratory, you are accused of war mongering—"dragging us into war," or a deliberate attempt to destroy free speech and set up a dictatorship. So they talk, and they talk, while the thick black smoke gives way to the blue sheets of flames.

Despairing and disgusted, the men of action and intellect (of Congress) abandon the debate club, to the endless delight of the speakers and debaters, who sincerely believe, they are the sole champions of Democracy and the saviors of America. God save Democracy, for the debaters unintentionally are doing their utmost to destroy it.

It is strange how we fight and die for a "thing." For example, the right of free speech—then use it to such excess that it destroys us and the thing itself. Too much freedom is as bad as too little freedom. The first leads to licensed-over-indulgence, anarchy, while the latter leads to despotism and tyranny.

Freedom of every variety must be restrained, regulated and used within reasonable bounds, either by law or by common sense, and self-denial, if, it is to survive and provide peace, happiness and prosperity.

America enjoys free speech, and this very freedom, our enemies employ to bring about our undoing. Congress enjoys free speech, and unfortunately abuses free speech in that it does not voluntarily restrain its free speech and debate within the bounds of prudence, patriotism and the exigencies of the hour. Therefore, they expose and publicize to the world and to the enemy their own weaknesses, as well as the weaknesses of Democ-

Stewart Says—

Canada Prefers Her Independence If Britain Loses

CHARLES F. STEWART, Central Press Columnist
 COURSE Mayor Florelo, Guardia of New York is in service of the Yankee-Canada joint commission which is up that mutually defensive pact be Uncle Sam and Our of the Not that other consioners all right. Florelo is more be thing but real hub of activity in sparis can downward. In pri-



Florelo LaGuardia

nadian dicker is easy enough arrange, for both sides want. There are some details, however, which require a certain amount of fixing.

On the one hand, the Canada don't want to be assimilated into the United States, regarding what may happen to the British Empire. On the opposite side, Yankee who has given the due consideration doesn't alter or like the idea of assimilation them literally.

Canada Prefers Independence There's been talk to the effect that should Germany over-run British Isles, the next step would be the transfer of the present Canadian government to Ottawa, and to be the imperial hub of the forward.

Canadians, the Yankee members of the joint commission now cover, don't favor this arrangement. They say they're glad to entertain British refugees and folk like Winston Churchill and others as refugees, but absolutely veto the notion of giving over Canada's government to them. Yet, unless they do so, don't see how Ottawa could come imperial headquarters.

Canada, to be sure, has a general appointed in London, but he hasn't a particular authority. The actual head of Canadian government is its prime minister chosen by the party in the Ottawa house of commons. In the event of the collapse of the empire, now centered in London, the Canadians scheme to go it alone thereafter, independently de jure as well as de facto. Naturally they couldn't count themselves even nominally subject to a German-ruled London. Neither would they care to be under control to a set of refugees from the original home land. It wouldn't like to be federally tated to from Washington.

Let 'em Go Alone The only alternative would appear to be complete Canadian independence.

But the Canadians do not think that imperatively need a tight alliance with Uncle Sam.

Well, they know they can't because it also is vital to Canada. Australia, for instance, is content. Let the empire blow up. The Australians will be left at the end of a long limb. The United States probably wouldn't stand differently, illustratively by a Yankee grab of Australia. It even that wouldn't hit us as immediately as an overseas swipe at Canada. So the Australians might be disposed to whatever terms we offered them.

The Canadians, though, quite aware that we've got to protect them anyway.

Assimilation Can Be Overdone As previously mentioned, there's a Yankee objection to assimilating the Canadians generally.

If we take 'em in, we'll have to take 'em in as states or territories. Now, would we enjoy having states of Quebec or Ontario seceding senators and representatives to congress in Washington?

Suppose a Quebecer or an Ontarian were to become a presidential aspirant?

Pan American Union And here's another thing. We have a Pan American Union. It includes all of the world's republics. Canada has belonged to it, for its republic.

I'll take Brazil to draw a parallel, for Brazil's our friend in the western hemisphere.

Without any assimilation of Brazilians, we can make a fine alliance with em, since all our interests, jointly, are new world. The same with the rest of the western hemisphere republics. Some of them don't like us as well as the Brazilians do, but at the none of them are governments tied by the leg to any overseas power.

Canada, however, always been-tied to England. Hence, it's been impossible to class the Canucks (nominally class the Pan Americans).

Maybe we can if the British Empire busts up.

racy, and the defects of national defense, against which seems to be no present or conceivable cure or curb.

What are "we the people" doing to do about it? What "we the people" do about it can at least bestir ourselves to (Continued page 1)