

The Mountaineer

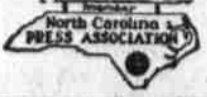
Published By THE WAYNESVILLE PRINTING CO. Main Street Phone 187

W. CURTIS RUSS Editor MRS. HILDA WAY GWYN Associate Editor W. Curtis Russ and Marion T. Bridges, Publishers

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY SUBSCRIPTION RATES One Year, In Haywood County \$1.50

Entered at the post office at Waynesville, N. C., as Second Class Mail Matter, as provided under the Act of March 3, 1879, November 20, 1914.

Obituary notices, resolutions of respect, cards of thanks, and all notices of entertainments for profit, will be charged for at the rate of one cent per word.



NATIONAL EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION Action Member

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1940

An Appreciation

So often men go away and gain prestige in other sections and life in the small town they left behind grows dim.

Frank Smathers is one of the ablest men ever reared in this community.

Judge Smathers left college and entered the law office of an eminent firm in Atlantic City.

He made up his mind early not to shun work, but to hunt for it.

Then death made a vacancy in the firm, and he was suddenly lifted from his minor position in the office to a partnership.

Though stricken with a physical handicap that would have been a justifiable alibi for even the most strong minded, he carried on for years until he was forced to retire from active work.

He holds a keen interest in matters of local, state and national concern and his opinions are the result of deep and constructive thinking.

We have valued his contributions to this paper and look forward to a reappearance of his column.

We have appreciated his writings not only for their merit, but for the fact that with all the prestige he has gained in high places, he still wanted to "lend a hand" at home.

"Weep No More"

The "young folks" doubtless are happy about it—"all merry, and happy, and bright."

Yes, at long last, Stephen Collins Foster, the untutored genius who touched the hearts of his countrymen—and of the world—as have but two or three writers of songs, has been awarded a niche in the Hall of Fame at New York University.

Now, will "my lady" please "weep no more," and likewise "all de darkies" "down in de cornfield"?

The world gave him sorry return while he sang, but today—from Sydney to Saskatoon—that world pays him tribute.

Anyway an atlas just off the press shows the oceans as we remember them.

Let's Keep It Up

The Waynesville High School Band has come of age. It is a recognized success.

It is becoming more or less a pattern for bands in this part of the state.

At the game this fall in Hendersonville when the Waynesville band led the parade in uniforms, the Hendersonville group organized long before the group here, carried a banner with "We want uniforms too".

The band played several times during the past season for Lake Junaluska.

A good band is an asset to any town. It is one of the finest advertisements a town can publicize.

Often in a community there is enthusiasm for a project and when it has been realized those sponsoring and working for it feel that the project has arrived and can travel alone.

Next week the band will give the first concert for which an admission charge will be made.

While the band needs the small admission fee that will be charged, it needs far more the moral support of your presence to give the students encouragement to continue the splendid record they have made.

It is your band. It is my band. Let's be on hand next Monday night to show them that we are still backing them one hundred per cent.

There is also a continued expense to the operation of the band, not again soon for large sums of money as for the initial uniforming, but for new music and incidentals.

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Fickle Football Fans

Movie stars and politicians have known for a long time that the dear old public is a rather fickle thing to deal with.

Figures just released for the past gridiron season shows that almost every team in the south had less customers than last year.

Last year Carolina had 96,000 customers, while this year 119,000 paid their way.

At Duke it was quite the opposite. In 1939 when things were rosy with the Blue Devils, they drew 102,000 customers, but this year, only 82,000 were attracted.

North Carolina State showed a net gain of 6,000, for a grand total of 57,000 for the season just ended as against 51,000 last year.

Louisiana State and Vanderbilt the only other recorded teams in the South to show a gain.

Even at that, the teams are drawing good crowds, and are making lots more than expense money, yet there is enough difference in the let-down to give business managers some worry over what the future does or does not hold for them.

Here and There

—By— HILDA WAY GWYN

Three generations in one household offer many interesting viewpoints . . . we often think that being the "middle one," so to speak . . . gives one quite a broad and far reaching vision . . . it is our pleasure and responsibility . . . often . . . to look back over the years that have gone by . . . even the days beyond our own experience with the older generation . . . as she relives again the scenes of her childhood and young womanhood . . . and then in the next moment . . . we are jerked back . . . not only to contemplate the present . . . but to look down the avenue of the future with the rising generation . . . and catch the tempo and spirit of a new world . . . at times we get almost breathless . . . bridging the gap between the two . . . they are so far apart in so many ways . . . so much has happened since the beginning of life for the older generation as compared to that of the younger . . . it is necessary that we see both sides . . . and we find ourselves sifting down through the years and changing customs . . . trying to separate the non essentials and get the truths . . . eternal of life . . . that nothing changes . . . there is so much in this streamlined age . . . that underneath was the same yesterday . . . today and will be tomorrow . . . often we are misled by appearance . . . and do not size up the situation in its true light . . .

When we find ourselves practically skipping to catch in step with the younger generation . . . now at that teen age . . . when life is a great fascinating mystery . . . just ahead . . . and emotions and ideas are beginning to stir . . . that in time will soon crystallize into realities and experience . . . we, who watch . . . feel that the paces does seem a bit rushed . . . time is in such a hurry to be done and off with . . . we find ourselves wishing that we could put into the hands of the younger generation hurrying to meet the years . . . some of the things of that Victorian . . . of the older generation . . . for we may smile at its staid formalities and its out dated customs . . . and perhaps its false conceptions of pride . . . but they had something . . . that would do well to keep . . . we long to gather up the appreciation of the finer things of the spirit . . . that the age of poetry and the tedious memorizing of good literature . . . that so bespoke the gentleman and the gentleman . . . of that day developed . . . and say to the younger generation . . . "Hold tight my child . . . when life begins to bring disillusionments" . . . (and we of the generation in between know . . . that there is not insurance . . . even today . . . against this inevitable battling against the human heart and its ideals) . . . for there is much of the golden days of the gay 90's and even back . . . that could serve as a spiritual oasis in this fast moving present day . . . to those growing up . . . with their eyes and minds tuned in on the future . . .

But there comes the thought . . . and we stop . . . such idle wishing . . . each life is a separate unit . . . we can tell them . . . we can show them . . . but the destiny in the end is their own making . . . we can coach them . . . we may be on the side lines at most of the games . . . and root with all our hearts and souls . . . that our team may win . . . but it is the team and not the cheer leaders who will win . . . but anyway we like being the "middle man" . . . it keeps one from getting in a mental rut . . . with fixed ideas about things . . . it is the finest antidote we know of against that "dead certain feeling, that one is always right" . . . that so often makes a "wet blanket" . . . and develops a superior complex in the "middle generation" . . . that is often prone to know it all . . . it aids in keeping one's viewpoint a resilient state to cope with the changing tide . . .

Isn't getting up these cold mornings a real hardship . . . in a recent informal group . . . it was "nighntening to learn the different hours which people . . . who apparently lead the same kind of lives . . . get up in the morning . . . and we will have to admit . . . contrary to our generally established views on the subject . . . we were rather surprised to find out that there are just about as many people who accomplish a great deal during the run of the day . . . who rise at a late hour . . . as those who get up at an unearhly time . . . we have always been more or less inclined . . . to consider the old rhyme . . . "Early to bed and early to rise . . . makes a man healthy and wealthy and wise" . . . as infallible . . . shortly after the foregoing discussion . . . we were talking to a man about



Voice of The People

Do you think Compulsory Military Training under the Conscripton Bill is adequate for National Defense? W. C. Boutwell—"Under the present condition, I feel that the Conscripton Bill will give us adequate national defense." R. V. Erk—"It all depends on the army and how the boys are equipped. I think it is too bad that all young men in American have not had military training. Personally I regret that I did not have the advantage of military training, as I am sure it would have been of considerable value."

CLIPPINGS TRIALS DEVELOPED GREAT CHARACTERS A man's ability unfolds as the years roll on; his life's character is built on a succession of events. The trials and tribulations of life heat and temper the metal of which he is made. Personal hardships, misery, sadness, and down, if met and mastered with fortitude and determination determine the true fibre of the man.

THINGS THAT MONEY CAN'T BUY Money can't buy real friendship—friendship must be earned. Money can't buy clear conscience—square dealings is the price tag. Money can't buy the glow of good health—right living is the secret. Money can't buy happiness—happiness is a mental attribute and one may be as happy in a cottage as in a mansion. Money can't buy sunsets, singing birds, and the music of the wind in the trees—these are as free as the air we breathe. Money can't buy character—character is what we are alone with ourselves in the dark.—Exchange.

Stewart Says—

New Deal Begins To Worry About Rising Prices



Leon Henderson

DESITE ALL the national administration's efforts to prevent an upward tendency in a great many prices is noticeable. It is pronounced enough yet to make it noticeable. Never has the price of anything been so high as at the beginning of the year. What's more, it's getting worse. The price of food is up, the price of clothing is up, the price of housing is up, the price of transportation is up, the price of entertainment is up, the price of education is up, the price of health care is up, the price of social services is up, the price of government is up, the price of the future is up.

The New Dealers' contention that our government's deficit spending, its unprecedented national debt, and the increase in its military and naval expenditures are inflationary. Still, a government can overstrain its credit, in which event its money shrinks in buying power—that is, prices sky-rocket.

Major J. Harden Howell—"If we have 18 months or two years before the attack, the Conscripton Bill is adequate for national defense, but if attack of this country should come sooner, it is not. The needs must meet the situation."

Carlton E. Weatherby—"I think the Conscripton Bill is adequate for national defense in peacetime, but in an emergency it would not be."

Lt. Paul Martin—"I do not think the present Conscripton Bill provides for enough men for adequate defense."

White Mease—"No. I think the present draft plan should be supplemented by the training of men not fit for military training in the skilled trades necessary for

could only write like that man, if I could only speak like that man, if I only had an even disposition and could keep from getting upset like this man or that, how much I would give.

The actor who succeeds in the show always carries on, no matter the ache in his heart, or the pain in his muscles. One never knows the misery that may exist in the actor's body or mind and which may amount to agony that would frighten away half the audience.

Determined Collegians Police have banned hitchhiking in Minneapolis, but Winston Oberg and Phil Swanson live too far from the University of Minnesota to walk and neither has a car. So they built a kayak and now paddle up the Mississippi river to school in 35 minutes.